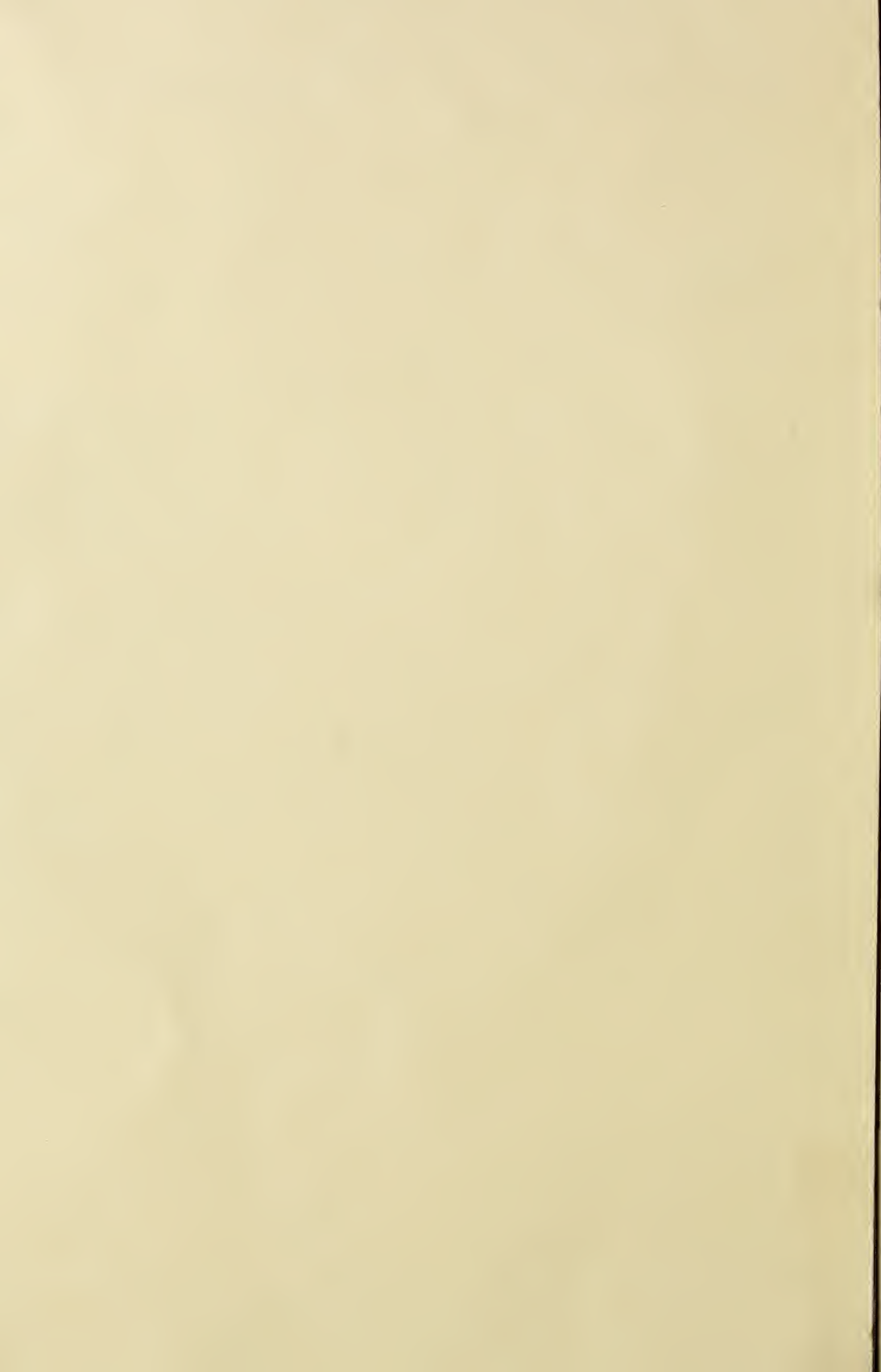


## **Historic, Archive Document**

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



# MARYLAND

DEVOTED TO  
AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE,



# FARMER:

LIVE STOCK  
and RURAL ECONOMY.

Vol. XXII.

BALTIMORE, JANUARY, 1885.

No. I.

## A Greeting to the New Year, 1885.

"O young, young Year, to us be kind!  
What results do you hold in store?  
What pain or pleasure shall we find  
That we have never found before?"

"O fresh young year, to us be kind!  
The old, the new, we wish for both  
This reaching out of instinct blind  
Must quicken to a larger growth."

"O strong new Year, to us be kind!  
Give truth and life, we ask not more,  
We leave the vain regret behind,  
We reach for fuller light before."

"O, new, new Year, to us be kind!  
We cannot wait; we feel our way;  
We live for that we hope to find  
With each returning New Year's day."

Hear the story of the bells,  
The New Year's bells!  
Hark! how the music sways and swells  
From out the old belfry, dark and high,  
Now down through the valley, now up to the sky  
Swinging and climbing,  
And ringing and chiming,  
And this is the story their melody tells,  
In quaintest, softest rhymes:

"Listen, children, to our chimes  
Our merry chimes!  
We will sing in your ears some pleasant rhymes,  
Of a New Year fresh from the land of light,  
Laden with treasures rich and bright;  
Winning and willing,  
And singing and smiling,  
And scattering his gifts for the coming times  
With looks of arch beguiling!"

Listen, children, to his song,  
His merry song!  
"Have good cheer, friends, it will not be long  
Ere the sleet and the ice, and the shrouding snow  
Will melt in the spring-time warmth and glow;  
And winning and springing,  
And singing and clinging,  
The roses and birds, and streamlets flow,  
New Year's joys are bringing!"

While we are compelled to mourn the death of 1884—which was so fruitful and beneficent to our whole country, with a few sporadic exceptions—yet we hail with bravos and welcomes the new year, trusting as men have done immemorially, that the *new* will be more fortuitous than the *old*. We hope always, if we "die in despair." Let us not expect too much, however, of our new year Sovereign, for the dead year of 1884 will be hard to beat in its blessings to our broad-spreading and varied climated Union of independent States. We have as a people, enjoyed wonderful blessings during 1884—our land has been freed from plagues and famines, and other human curses, while nature has exerted itself in production of the soil that not only surprised ourselves by its over-productions for our own wants, but has astonished the world, which already looks to the United States as a granary to draw from as in older days of plenty and want, when Egypt was wise enough to foresee events. While it is true that the price of wheat has never been so low for one hundred years past, nor so much corn (1,800,000,000 bushels) grown in one year, and so cheap that the farmers of the Western wilds do not know what to do with it, while the usual markets of the outer world are supplied nearer home, let us follow the wisdom of the Ancients and hoard it, until a demand comes. Those, whose necessities will not allow, must turn it to the best advantage in feeding stock, poultry, &c.

There are, or soon can be, all the stomachs necessary to consume all the great crop of corn of 1884. Do this and our people will slowly slide into that system, which will redound to their pecuniary interest, and domestic ease and comfort.

The year 1884 has taught us through Divine Providence, this great and true lesson that we were so slow to learn, *keep more stock and poultry, and work less land.* Let us therefore supply our own markets before we attempt to supply foreign markets when they happen to be inviting, which is not often. Why should we be importing millions of eggs and pounds of cheese, etc., when we have grain rotting in our stacks, or bins, which, if properly used would bring fair prices in the shape of beef, mutton, eggs, poultry, &c., retaining the money within our own border and making each other rich by this interchange?

Let us be a frugal and economical people, while this state of low prices of products exist, and keep within our receipts. Preserve order and system, for on these two rests the foundation of all good things.

It is true that money in circulation is scarce, while there never before was so much in the country, or so much specie in the vaults of the United States treasury, taxes continue high, and business not depressed, but crippled by want of activity; thousands of laboring men out of employment, and wages low for such as must work or starve.

At this moment our people are starving in the midst of plenty. The finger of Providence is in it. Learn so to live that you may be safe both in plenty and adversity, is our advice. While all goes on swimmingly, lay up treasures, squander not your toil in the follies of the day, but follow the examples of the squirrels and other wise beasts, and provide for the coming winter of adversity. Rely not on "strikes," for with all your power of resis-

tance you cannot "draw blood out of a turnip," or make trade when the market is over-stocked. You cannot expect men to pay you if they cannot sell the goods you help to manufacture.

Farmers should redouble their efforts, diversify their crops; increase their stock of all kinds, and pay more attention to it; improve the fertility of their farms; spend less money, live economically and maintain their dignity, without truckling to the effeminate fashions of a few speculating millionaires, who live elegantly today on the people's hard earnings, and tomorrow often do, but not as often as they should wear the public stripes of the penitentiary. "*Cut your coat according to your cloth,*" is a wholesome maxim for the beginning of the year, and never to be forgotten by any farmer who may be induced to exceed the extent of his pocket-book. What we wrote several years ago is still applicable to the present circumstances, and hence we repeat it:—Let it be a rule, as far as possible, never to buy anything in the way of provisions, that the farm can produce, and such groceries as are required, should be done without, unless the extra butter, milk, honey, poultry and eggs sold, will cover the cost. In families where there are children of sufficient years and health, inculcate habits of industry in them, by assigning some duty to be performed by each, give to him or her a fair share in the profits; say of poultry, honey, butter, etc., or in a calf, colt, or the sheep. These seem to be "trifles light as air," be assured as the mites make mountains, and trivial matters constitute the sum of human happiness or misery, just so these small things we have taken the liberty to suggest at the beginning of a New Year, for the guidance of our readers, will lead to prosperity and content, and vastly tend to the increase of industry and fondness for the pursuits of rural life in the children of a farmers household.



Without pausing to assign our reasons, we feel assured that this plethora of production will soon pass off, business soon become active as ever, and confidence restored, money now locked up and held in, in active abeyance, will be made useful by its return to the ordinary channels; the unemployed become busy, and a new life infused by the incoming of the new rulers under the late political revolution. We predict confidently this within the next ninety days, and feel confident that 1885 will prove itself favorable to the manufacturer, and fill the sails of commerce, while it fills the pocket of the farmer.

We therefore trust and hope that this year on which we are entering may be one of health and prosperity to our whole country, and to each one of our subscribers, who enlarging for himself the views we have thrown out, may reap their advantages and as the seasons roll by, may with self-congratulation say with the German poet:—

"Hay, and corn, and buds, and flowers,  
Snow, and ice, and fruit, and wine—  
Suns and seasons, sleets and showers,  
Bring, in turn, these gifts divine.  
Spring blows, Summer glows,  
Autumn reaps, Winter keeps,  
Spring prepares, Summer provides,  
Autumn boards, Winter hides  
Come then, friends, their praises sound;  
Summer, Autumn, Winter, Spring,  
As they run their yearly round,  
Each in turn with gladness sing!  
Time drops blessings as he flies—  
Time makes ripe, and then makes wise.

### Farm Work for January.

This is generally conceded as no month for farm work, yet the husbandmen will find much to occupy their minds and their hands, if they will only apply themselves to the surroundings. Such work as was not attended to last month must be done now, such as getting things in order for the winter season. Fire wood, rails and fence materials are to be provided, besides provender for the stock, and warm shelter and a plentiful supply of dried leaves, &c. for bedding: filling the ice-houses; briars and tussocks, muck, leaves, mould, &c. to be gathered and hauled on fit days to make compost heaps, and also to be spread

over the barn yard for keeping the cattle dry, absorbing the liquids and increasing the manure piles. This is some of the *out-door* work to be done this month, and more can be found that is highly important as *in-door* work; such as mending and making gates, making posts and sharpening rails, shelling corn, stripping tobacco, threshing beans, hulling clover seed, whitewashing the inside of poultry houses and other out-buildings which require cleansing, &c. But the most important of all is the mental thought of the farmer these long winter nights is carefully arranging his plans for the work of the coming year, and in opening a new set of Books with the determination to persevere throughout the year in keeping them correctly and steadily as if he were engaged in mercantile pursuits. It is as important for the farmer as for the merchant to keep correct accounts, so that his books will tell the true tale of his pecuniary condition at the end of a month or of a year. These books should show the state of the weather for each day, the cost of farm, stock, implements, &c., and an account between owner and farm, by which the latter should be charged with interest on the entire cost of everything necessary to it; also with 10 per cent for wear and tear of stock and implements, with all necessary labor expended, including fair pay for the time and superintendence of the owner; and it should be credited with its entire product at a fair valuation, with increase of stock, sales of poultry, butter, stock furnished by the farm, and increased value of the farm, if any, and if not, to be charged with its decreased value. It should also be credited with any and all the advantages it furnished during the year; such as house-rent, fire-wood, ice, vegetables, meats, fruit, and the keep of pleasure houses. The balance between those debit and credit accounts will show whether the farm is a paying concern or not. To all this is to be added the charms of rural life and that self independence which belongs to the countrymen and to no other member of any class in society.

### Corn.

If it is designed to sell a portion of this crop, we advise to sell and fan that much as early as you find time to do so, and ship it to market at your first convenience, for it is liable to waste and loss from various causes, and loses more in weight and shrinkage than other grains, as in nine months it loses at least one-fourth, so that it is better to sell before Christmas at seventy-five cents per bushel than get one dollar in July. Rats, weevil and other marauding causes are

ever enemies of this crop, and hence it is better to be rid of it as soon as it is possible, however low the price may be, especially when there is no prospect of an early rise in price. But we advise in the present very low rate of prices to keep it at home until you can send it to market on the hoof. Feed it to cattle and sheep and hogs, and you will get a better price for it in that way, and have the manure besides. The labor of feeding it will offset the labor of shelling, winding, bagging, wagoning and freight, commission, &c. Feed therefore all you have rather than take less than it cost to grow it.

#### Stock.

See that stock of all kinds are well provided for, warmly housed, have frequent access to pure water, good dry bedding, and a large yard for exercise in fair weather; this yard kept well littered for the purposes of making manure and keeping the stock dry while exercising. Over this yard and in the stables strew plaster once a week, with a heavy hand. It tends to health of stock and fastens the ammonia for future use.

#### Plowing.

Whenever the weather and state of the ground permit, plowing should be done on all stiff or well-turfed land. The future snows and frosts both fertilize and crumble the heavy clods and breaks up the close connexion of the soil as if harrowed by a thousand sharp needles to the square inch. Commutation is there secured. In winter land may be plowed in a moister condition than at any other season. It will not bake if left in the rough, but will the better be acted upon by the snow and frost.

#### Farm Implements.

Let all these be overhauled and repaired, or painted after being cleaned. New ones or improved machines obtained at once. Put all in order for use when occasion hereafter may require. The same as to gear of all sorts. "Let a stitch in time save nine" be emblazoned over your work-shop door, and see that it is fully carried out.

#### Ice.

Never neglect a single opportunity to get this until the house is full. The chances to do so is not always. Over them you have no control, therefore, embrace each freeze. The thinner it is the finer let it be pounded, so as to cement as it melts, into one hard, compact mass. Remember what a comfort it is in fevers. What a luxury in hot weather. What a necessity to the dairy, and all it appertains to and you will not regret having an ice-house well filled and stored.

#### General Work.

Regardless of what we have suggested herein, look well to the fence-rows and grub up briars and small growth of trees, and if possible, remove the rich earth which has accumulated and compost it with your manure heaps. You leave the fences then on bare, sterile foundations, much to the future preservation of the same, and greatly to the looks and general appearance of the farm, while what you have removed will well repay in the increase of the fertility of the interior of field enclosed. Look well to the farm roads and see that they are in perfect order. If you have the time, give your help to the improvement of the public roads near your residence, and you will hereafter be paid by self-gratulation, thanks of the supervisor and the blessings of all travellers who know of your philanthropy.

#### Garden Work for January.

The gardener has but few out-door operations to perform in most portions of the United States this month, but he has much with which he can profitably occupy his time; such as trimming the bushes, spreading and turning under manure, making compost heaps; preparing bean poles, making trellisses, hot bed frames and sashes, &c. He should also lay down his plans for the year, look over his various seeds and write out a list of such seeds, bulbs, plants or trees he may want, and after a careful scrutiny, order the same from some reliable nurseryman and seedman, so as to be among the first served. Much satisfaction is often gained by such a course. The nursery nearest home is usually the best to order from if it be a reliable and well established one.

In the flower garden but little can be done, beyond tying up or layering tender shrubs, and mulching such plants as require it. Mature your plans for the year, and if new walks are to be made, or new beds, now is a good time to dry out, under drain and prepare them while there is leisure to do the work artistically and properly.

Look well to the cold-frames and give all the air and sun possible, and cover the sashes with old carpet or matting during severely cold weather. If water be positively required, let it be tepid. If properly managed, these cold frames will be found of much value to a garden in maturing late vegetables and bringing forward lettuce, radishes, &c.

FASHION IS QUEEN.—Fast, brilliant and fashionable are the Diamond Dye colors. One package colors 1 to 4 lbs of goods. 10c; for any color; Get at druggists. Wells, Richardson & Co., Burlington, Vt.



### Deer Creek Farmer's Club.

#### DOES A HIGH PROTECTIVE TARIFF PROTECT FARMERS?

The Deer Creek Farmers' Club met last Saturday at the residence of Mr. Benjamin Silver, Jr. Mr. Silver cultivates about 450 acres of land, and raised this year large crops of wheat and hay, besides canning about 22,000 cases of corn, one half of which was grown by himself. The customary tour of inspection of the farm and buildings was not made, and as the club had a weighty subject to talk about, the discussion began without any preliminaries. The subject announced was: "Is a protective Tariff of benefit to farmers?"

Benjamin Silver, Jr., said the question was a deep one, but it has its A. B. C's, and we might look over the rudiments with some advantage to ourselves. A protective tariff is wrong in principal and if wrong at the foundation how can good come out of it? Its tendency is to prevent an equal distribution of the wealth of the country; to take away from the many and give to the few. By stopping the importation of any necessary article, by a high protective tariff, an immense profit is made on its manufacture here, and capital rushes to seek it. The consequence is that the market is soon overstocked and the factories are stopped, throwing labor out of employment. When the surplus stock is consumed the factories are started again and the same process repeated. Looking at the subject as farmers we know that the iron man cares nothing for us.—The cheaper our produce is sold the better for him. What farmers want is to get what they need as cheaply as possible and sell their grain as high as possible. A high protective tariff excludes the product of England, for instance and she retaliates by encouraging the production of wheat in her colonies, and only buys our wheat when she can do no better. If we had free trade she would be glad to take our wheat in exchange for goods. Farmers have the bulk of the tax to pay and get no protection in return.

A. P. Silver regarded a protective tariff as more oppressive to the farmer than to other classes, and he could not see where it benefitted the laborer,

James Lee thought a protective tariff of benefit to farmers. By protecting the manufacturer we increase the price of wages and the laborer is more able to buy wheat that the farmer produces. Prices are enhanced and the farmer is benefitted by them. Mr. Lee thought the masses instead of a few were benefitted by a high tariff.

Wm. B. Hopkins was of the opinion that free trade would be beneficial to the farming interests.

Judge James D. Watters said that of our entire population more than one-third is directly dependent on agriculture; a large proportion of the wealth of the country is invested in lands, and of exports a large part is from the farm.—Therefore farming is an important interest, and we have a right to consider the question of tariff and our own position in relation to it.—He did not pretend to say that the interest of farmers ought to control everything else, but it ought to be considered.

In discussing the question we ought to have some self-evident propositions to begin with:—One proposition, said he, which seems to me axiomatic, is that all protection is based upon inequality. If protection could be so adjusted as to apply to all in a precisely equal degree, it would at that moment cease to protect.

Another self-evident proposition is, that whenever a country produces more of a given article than it can consume, then the producers of that article cannot be protected by any tariff duty upon imports.

This is true in the absence of corners or gambling. If all the wheat and corn raised in this country were under the control of one man, a tariff of one dollar a bushel on wheat, and fifty cents a bushel on corn would give that man such power that he could well afford not only to pay the interest on the national debt, but in addition to contribute a few million dollars every four years for the purpose of keeping in power the party that would grant him such a favor. In view of the fact that many of our highly protected industries are in the hands of less than half a dozen firms, it doesn't seem impossible that herein lies the secret of the abundance of money available for campaign purposes.

A third self-evident proposition, I take it, is that whenever a country produces more of a given article than it can con-

sume, the price of that article is regulated by the price which the surplus will bring in the market of the world.

We have, then, at least these three axioms, and we cannot be required to answer any argument, the conclusion of which contradicts them.

Judge Watters then read from a protectionist authority a table of articles, showing the rate of wages of labor in Belgium, Denmark, Germany, France, Italy, Great Britain and the United States, which is relied on to prove that the higher wages paid in the United States are due to our protective tariff, and said that whatever else such statistics might prove, they certainly do not establish the fact sought in this instance, for the reason that of all the countries named, England is the only one which does not have a high tariff on imports, and the table shows that wages in England are higher than in any of the countries named except the United States.

Judge Watters argued that the prosperity of the United States during the last 20 years was not on account of our high protective tariff, but because of several phenomenally productive seasons which were accompanied by an extraordinary foreign demand, which consumed our surplus products. In fact, during the past 20 years we have prospered greatly and wages have been correspondingly high, but there is no more logical reason for attributing our high wages to our high protective tariff than there is for attributing our favorable seasons to the same cause.

But we hear a great deal said about the incidental advantages which we farmers receive from a prosperous system of manufacturers. Now I am not disposed to underrate those advantages, but it must be confessed that just at this time, when wheat is 80 cents a bushel—when we are compelled to compete with the pauper labor of the world, and especially with that of India and Russia, those "incidental advantages" don't seem to us to be enormously large.

As a farmer talking to farmers, and discussing this question solely from a farmer's standpoint, I feel justified in making this additional point: If we look across to Great Britain we see that she consumes vastly more farm products than she produces, while she manufactures vastly more than she can consume, so that in Great Britain a duty on imports would benefit the farmer

at the expense of the manufacturer—but in Great Britain they have free trade. In this country the conditions are reversed our agricultural products are greatly in excess of our power to consume them, and duties on imports protect manufacturers at the expense of the farmers—and here we have protection. It looks like the old story of "You take the buzzard and I'll take the turkey, or else I'll take the turkey and you take the buzzard"—and the farmer gets the buzzard either way.

Wm. Munnikhuisen said that the maxim for a good government is, the greatest good to the greatest number. In a protective tariff the reverse is the case. The few are protected at the expense of the many. He favored a tariff for revenue, but he could not see how a protective tariff helps farmers.

R. Jno. Rogers had always thought a protective tariff proper, and if free trade means destruction of our manufacturers he would think it wrong.

R. L. Wilson said that in a well ordered government the interests of the few should give way to the interests of the many. A high protective tariff benefits a few at the expense of the many. That is the reason grain is low. Few vessels are coming here to take away our grain, because of the high tariff on articles of foreign manufacture.

W. W. Preston thought farmers were not benefitted by the tariff, because their surplus produce is sold abroad, while they have to pay a higher price for imported articles. A tariff for revenue would be much more beneficial than a high protective tariff.

J. P. Silver thought that if a high tariff protects manufacturers, and gives labor employment, it is a benefit to the farmer who has these laborers to feed. The point is to have a tariff that will protect and foster home manufactures, but not so high as to create monopolies. The farmer is the life blood of the nation. If he produced nothing, business would entirely collapse. The farmer may not be as much benefitted as the manufacturer by a protective tariff, but he is benefitted by getting higher prices for his grain.

Thomas A. Hays believed in a reasonable tariff.

Benj. Silver, Sr., said he was in favor of a reasonable tariff that would encourage



certain struggling industries, that needed it. A high tariff is now not needed and it could be reduced and equalized so as to be beneficial and not oppressive.

B. H. Silver was in favor of a low tariff. A tariff is of no benefit at all to the farmers, because they produce more than is consumed in this country, and the price is regulated according to the markets of Europe. Therefore, if we can get our goods cheaper in Europe, we should be allowed to buy them there.

S. B. Silver favored a reasonable tariff, but the tariff on a great many things don't protect or benefit the farmer in selling his crops. He gets no more for his grain by reason of the tariff, but is obliged to pay more for what he buys.

John Moores said he was for Free Trade and Farmers' Rights. He could not see in what way the farmer's interest is bound up in any tariff at all. Anything that benefits farmers will benefit everybody else. The tariff is called "protective," and yet there are duties on hundreds of article not manufactured, mined or found in the United States. What protection is that? The tax of two cents a pound on horse shoes and nails is not a protection to the farmer, but to the iron man. Thirty years ago we had five or six iron furnaces, five or six tannerries and merchant mills in Harford. Now about all of our manufactures are confined to one small tannery. All the rest have been "protected" out of existence by the high tariff. It is not even necessary to have a tariff for revenue. We have all the machinery for collecting the money to carry on the government, and if people could see just what they have to pay to support the government, they might be more careful to get honest men to expend their money. It is true we cannot get along without the manufacturer, but he could see no reason why farmers should be taxed more than their share, for the benefit of manufacturers.

David E. Wilson could not see what good a protective tariff is to farmers. It was not intended for their benefit, but only for the manufacturer.

Hargraves Spaulding believed a protective tariff is a benefit not only to the manufacturer, but also to the farmer. He favored a reasonable but not a high tariff.

Wm. H. Bayless regarded protection as wrong in principle, producing an unnat-

ural and unhealthy state of trade. Free Trade is better for the farmer. Why do we have protection? Is it not to encourage the manufacture of particular articles for the benefit of the country? When that is accomplished why should we keep on protecting them? Protection ought to be abolished gradually so as not to disturb or unsettle business, and we ought to have a tariff for revenue only. He was opposed to taxation by the general government.

David McMenamin, of Philadelphia, said he differed in opinion with most of the members of the club. He would like to impress this upon them, that the farmer can have no true interest differing from that of the rest of his country. He is but a portion of the whole, and if you sicken the whole body politic can the farmer be well? Mr. McMenamin argued that knowledge of manufactures and mechanics was increased by means of a high tariff, and this knowledge was the best security this country could have against being overthrown by hostile nations of the old world. It was a fact in history, he said, that nations which understood the manipulation of iron had always conquered those that did not. All we ask is that this knowledge be protected in America until we get a fair start.

Dr. John Sappington said he was in favor of a protective tariff only as far as it was to the interest of the farmer, and was opposed to monopolies. As far as farmers, as a class, are concerned, their interests are for free trade.

Jas. R. Massey did not believe in a high tariff, but was not a free trader. Only enough should be raised by a tariff to support the government at Washington.

John H. Janney said one point had been overlooked in the discussion, namely, that protection has entirely killed our commerce. Before the protective policy prevailed, the seas were white with American sails and thousands of sailors were supported. If we had an exchange of commodities with foreign nations we would get rich and would support as many men on the sea as we do now in our highly protected manufactures. A tariff is the easiest way to collect money for the support of the government. If it were not for that free trade would be the best. As far as the farmer is concerned there is nothing but destruction ahead if the tariff is not reduced.

England says she cannot afford to buy bread stuffs from the United States unless she buys from us. Consequently she has encouraged the raising of wheat in India, and built railroads to get it to the seaboard for transportation to England. There is no reason why with free trade we could not compete with the world when we have the raw material in abundance. Certain things may need protection and we can raise revenue on them and on luxuries. Then our laboring men could live cheaper, could work for lower wages, if necessary, and be better off than they are now.

Geo. E. Silver said he was a free trader. It would be to the interest of the farmer to lower the duty on imports. On many things the farmer buys he has to pay a duty in addition to the cost of manufacture, while few things he raises are thus protected. If the farmer alone is to be considered, let us remove the duty and have free trade. Money and manufactures have no intrinsic value, but what the farmer produces has, because it will sustain life. If the farmer stops the industries of the country must stop also. He would like to see free trade tried, partially at least. Tariff duties protect a few monopolists and large corporations at the expense of the many who are consumers.

Adjourned to meet at Mr. Hosea Barnes' December 20th. An "Experience Meeting" will be held. Each farmer will be expected to give a short account of what he has done the past year; a statement of crops raised; his successes and failures, and the reason for the latter, if he can give them, &c.—*Ægis and Intelligencer*.

### Commissioner Loring on Pleuro-Pneumonia.

In the course of an address before the National Association of Stockmen at Chicago, the Hon. Geo. B. Loring, United States Commissioner of Agriculture, spoke as follows concerning the existence of pleuro-pneumonia among the cattle of this country, and the attitude of the Department of Agriculture towards the disease. He said:—

Experiments have been instituted in Washington, in order to test the contagiousness of a lung disease prevailing in the district, supposed to be pleuro pneumonia. Fifteen animals were exposed in close con-

finement at different times with this prevalent lung disease, and none of them were attacked with the disease to which they were thus exposed. Later, four cows, in very poor condition, were placed in the same confinement, and were attacked with disease, two after a month's exposure, and two after exposure of two months. One of these animals was fatally ill—the remaining three were recovering when slaughtered.

Experiments similar to these have been commenced in New York, a stable having been erected for the purpose on Barren Island. Eighteen cows, sixteen of which were from Canada, where pleuro-pneumonia does not exist, were selected for their healthfulness and fine condition, and placed in the stables about the middle of September, in contact with three or four animals affected with the disease. In the latter part of October three or four of the cows thus exposed were found to have symptoms of pleuro-pneumonia, and when slaughtered proved to be characteristic cases. The disease extended through a large portion of the lungs in each animal. Other animals now show symptoms of the disease.

The unexpected appearance of pleuro-pneumonia in the Western States in August last attracted universal attention and created great alarm among all interested in the cattle industry of that section of the country. The disease seems to have been discovered in a herd of cattle in Elmhurst, near Chicago, and on tracing its origin, eight herds were found to be infected, all but one of which were clearly connected by the interchange of cattle. Two of these were in Ohio, one in Kentucky, and five in Illinois. The number of animals exposed was 625, 101 of which have contracted the disease.

A prompt and thorough investigation of the disease by Prof. Salmon, assisted by some of the most experienced and reliable veterinary surgeons in the infected region, convinced those engaged in the transportation of cattle, that unusual care should be exercised in this business, and induced those engaged in cattle breeding and feeding, to guard with great diligence against the exposure of their herds, by purchase or exchange. The interesting fact that the disease was confined to herds of Jerseys alone, rendered the designs of those



two classes of dealers easy of accomplishment—the Jerseys, not entering into the general cattle traffic of the country, and their purchase and exchange being confined to much narrower limits than that of the beef-producing breeds, which constitute the great bulk of our transported cattle, and their breeding being carried on for the production of dairy cows alone, whose business does not require great herds, or a wide range. We may congratulate ourselves, therefore, that this insidious disease has not made its appearance among the herds devoted to the production of beef.

The Shorthorns and Herefords, and Galloways and Polled Angus cattle have thus far escaped, and I have no doubt that the appearance of the disease in herds and breeds of less general demand has acted as a warning which will increase the careful work of preventing in every way the spread of the disease. Pleuro-pneumonia is an insidious and lurking disease. It may remain a long time in a given locality without extending, and without warning steal forth on its march of destruction.

But it can always be isolated and extirpated by proper measures. Time and again has it been driven from Holland by these measures. It was once removed in this way from Australia. It has been repeatedly removed or reduced to a bare existence in England. Twenty-four years ago it was distinctly planted in eastern Massachusetts from Holland, and from eastern to central Massachusetts, and was extirpated, never, thus far, to return. It is now isolated in the West. Intercourse with the infected herds to which I have referred has been cut off, fatally diseased animals are dying in their isolation, and time is gradually restoring those attacked in a mild form. The danger still exists, it is true. But recognizing the fact that the contagion will ultimately die out, it is only necessary to continue the isolation long enough and the present danger is over. I think you will all agree with me that every agency, State and National, which can accomplish this object should be carried out. A threatening danger like this must inevitably discourage the breeder; it must annoy the feeder, and it must of necessity interfere with that traffic which has become of vast importance to the carriers, the home consumers, and the foreign

market. Whoever is interested in American cattle is interested also in the security of the cattle business on this continent, and in the reputation of American cattle and beef, and he must feel the importance of protecting our herds against all approach of disease. And knowing as we do that this has been and can be done, we have only to unite in one effort to accomplish so desirable an object.

---

For the Maryland Farmer.

### Christmas Greeting.

---

Your kind intention, to present to the readers of the old "Maryland Farmer" in the January number a literary holiday present, would meet my thorough approbation, were that intention not coupled with the request that I should make a suitable contribution to this occasion. "If the court knows herself," *she* in preference deals in the peppery condiments of the literary cuisine and the manufacture of a Xmas sweet may prove a failure, yet, if you promise to hang this plum way down on your literary Xmas tree, where the ginger-cakes and less desirable "cadeaux's" are placed, I will send you herewith a few hastily-thrown-together thoughts, to fill some modest corner in your January number.

The season now upon us, with its vegetation bereft of color and leaves, its fields mantled in the white down of the clouds, its watercourses gliding silently by under vaults of ice, seems to verify the saying, that this is the season of nature's repose and to invite the farmer to share in a winter's rest. But only partially is this the case and to place your agricultural readers more in harmony with nature, in that consonance which should closely exist between nature and nature's companion and friend, the farmer, let me point out some of the unseen activity of nature at this time and afford thought, if not instruction, to some one of your readers. And right here let me point out, how much the failure of "being in harmony with nature" does take from the farmer's life its best part. To the city man the refinements of society are the most enjoyable part of his life, to the literary man these are the thoughts gathered from a favorite author, perhaps far out of the line of his literary work; to the hard-worked physician or lawyer some art study, some feast of music brings brightness into



his life, and thus, that farmer greatly fails to utilize *his* store of happiness and joy, when he neglects to place himself in harmony with nature. To plow on dully furrow after furrow, to work row after row of the growing grain, to hew stroke by stroke the winter fuel, to do these and a thousand others of the routine labors of his life, and to do them mechanically as the weary ox treads the monotonous rounds of a Mexican or Egyptian irrigation-wheel, would be dullness supreme! But when a Burns turns up with the plowshare "a little mouse" and transforms that commonplace occurrence into a quaint little gem of poetical thought, when amidst the so-called weeds which the cultivator's share thrusts aside, some rustic botanist can pause a moment and in the uprooted little weed plantlet recognize perhaps one of the most beautiful specimens of nature's flow'ry crown and in its simple, yet regular and lovely arrangement of petals, stamens and pistels see one of the masterpieces of nature's handiwork; when the stroke of the woodman's axe keeps time to thoughts upon the marvellous life force sending the sap on its mysterious cellular way, crowning annually the tree with buds, leaves and fruit, placing thousands of little mouths, the automata, on the undersurface of each leaf and giving in the nitrogen and carbonic acid appropriating plant life the grand balance of an oxygen consuming animal world and combustion, when such and similar thoughts accompany the farmer in his daily work, can it be said that monotony and dullness are the necessary adjuncts of a farmer's life. But to fill life with such thoughts, to fringe the homely web of everyday life with "cunning design and vary-colored thread" needs an educated mind, and perhaps more than this, an educated heart. The first an earnest study of the rudiments, the combinations and the results of the sciences explaining the great agricultural tripod: the soil, the plant, the animal, can furnish, whilst the latter, the education of the heart and to bring down from a higher world the only truly beautiful in life, must be that communion with nature's Creator and Master, alike permitted to the children of earth, whatever their pursuits of life.

But this long digression has, I fear, narrowed the peep we have promised to make into nature's work for the farmers at this

wintry time, and will only permit outlines which the reader, seated by his warm fire-side, must fill out for himself. Jack Frost is at work and to watch him intelligently will lead us to study the disintegration of soils, the preparing of the mineral portions of plant-food and into a consideration of the questions underlying manuring, that subject upon which annually millions are spent, without clear and full data upon which to predicate certainty of results being as yet at the command of the farmers.

Under shelter are the animals, domesticated to the use of man from the wild and roving denizens of the prairie and the forest. In the hearing of many a reader of these lines their not unmelodious speech asks for the daily food at a master's hand. Are the questions of food-materials, of food assimilation, of flesh and milk production, of the cropping of breeds and care in health and quickness so thoroughly understood as to make at this time the perusal of an intelligent treatise upon the animal industries of the country, or of a practical compendium upon animal diseases and their remedies, an useless expenditure of the farmer's leisure time?

Have the passed year's farming operations, the results obtained from the different crops, been so satisfactory that a careful perusal of the records every farmer should keep, however brief they may have to be made amidst the active months of the farmyear, that a perusal of such and extension from memory at this time, a comparison with the records of years past, a further comparison with similar records found in the agricultural press of the part of the country nearest to the farmer's home, that *this* would be unprofitable employment for the winter's evenings?

Varied indeed are the questions that may at this time justly claim intelligent inquiry and, if necessary, preparatory study—and perhaps no better field of usefulness could be found for farmer's clubs and societies, than to furnish to their members plain and compact winter courses of lectures on live agricultural questions by competent specialists, but where these are wanting, the same determination that has directed many a self culture and placed many a rural thinker amongst the scientists and discoverers of the hidden mysteries of nature, this selfculture is within the grasp of all, and

the radiance of intelligent thought should thus brighten every farmer's life.

Under winter's snowy folding  
Nature works her subtle spell,  
Which, the Spring's soft snow beholding,  
Of her thoughts, her care shall tell.

Not one moment has she rested,  
E'er her busy fingers plied,  
That her skill again be tested  
And by Summer verified.

Lay the teaching of the mother,  
Farmer friend, now to thy heart!  
Closer thou than any other  
Other sons, dearest thou art.

As she loves thee, be thou worthy  
Of the mother's high esteem!  
Break the routine chain that binds thee  
To a thought void, idle dream!

But amidst her wondrous working  
Stand thou, an enlightened friend!  
Listening, weighing, thinking, helping  
Fash'ning all to useful end.

HAYFIELD.

For the Maryland Farmer.

### Suggestion for the New Year.

From boyhood up we are taught that the opening of the New Year affords a good opportunity for "turning over a new leaf" in the conduct of our affairs and of ourselves. In the matter of keeping farm accounts, we are sure that the readers of the MARYLAND FARMER do not greatly differ from the farmer in general the country over, too many of whom, we are inclined to believe, keep no sort of a reckoning with their fields or their stock. If they do not, now, at the beginning of this new year of 1885, it is an excellent time to get a book or two, spread open its snow-white pages before and begin your record. Our word for it, the showing, at the end of the year, will surprise its possessor in more than one respect.

Because a farmer does not keep some definite record of his receipts and expenditures, and often finds that with all his income from this crop and that, he has little to show at the close of the year, he becomes discontented and asserts that farming does not pay.

In the cost of living they forget to include the production of the farm which, in part, goes directly to their own table and count only what they expend "at the store." Here at once they will be misled, for what they purchase is by no means the

largest part of the living expense unless they are exceedingly extravagant.

The farm should be treated as an individual, in this respect. Open an account with the farm as a whole or better still, if you wish, with each separate field. Have the fields mapped out before, say on the fly leaf of your large ledger, perhaps. Let each one have its name, number or letter, and to each so distinguished, let all its products be credited, and all the labor and fertilizers, etc., expended upon it, be debited. Then you know just what the field has done and what it is worth to you, each year. With a similar record of all fields, you know what your farm is doing for you. You will then be able to say whether farming pays or not in your own case.

So with regard to stock. If you do not care to enter so much into details as to keep an account with each cow or ox,—a thing to be advised, perhaps, only in case of valuable cows to ascertain their profit to you in milk, butter and calves—then keep an account with each *kind* of stock and so *know* just what they are worth to you. You will find that there are some cows that do not pay their keep and you will know which to get rid of and which to retain in your herd.

Such keeping of accounts will lead the farmer to look at the cause of this field's *poor* returns, or that cows unproductiveness, and he will supply the lack in some way. Farmers have a reputation for economy, but to keep an exact record of outgoes and incomes, will aid much in being economical, by which we do not mean parsimonious. It will teach their children to know the worth of a dollar, a thing some never really find out. The time required for each reckoning need not be much; and if it should take a half hour of each day (which it need not) it would be time well and profitably spent. Try it for 1885.

J. W. DARROW.

N. Y.

CATARRH CURED —A clergyman, after suffering a number of years from that loathsome disease, Catarrh, after trying every known remedy without success, at last found a prescription which completely cured and saved him from death. Any sufferer from this dreadful disease sending a self addressed stamped envelope to Dr. J. A. Lawrence, 199 Dean St., Brooklyn, N. Y., will receive the recipe free of charge.



## Maryland Lands.

### THEIR STERILITY AND IMPROVEMENT.

The improvement of our lands is a question that demands our earnest attention, and before entering into the subject, it may be proper to speak of their nature, origin, &c. Soils may be classed under two heads, the sedentary and the transported. The latter soil composes a large portion of our state: nearly all the land on the Eastern shore and a large portion of the western, adjoining the tidewater region. The difference between these soils is, that while the sedentary rests on the original foundation of rock, and is formed from the rotting or disintegration of the primary rock; the transported soil is composed of material washed out of the disintegrated mass, and settles in what is known as cretaceous, tertiary and post tertiary formations. These lands are composed of sand and clay, often mingled with shells and the remains of extinct animals. The sedentary soil is comparatively thin, and by repeated cropping, soon becomes exhausted of the necessary plant food; but the transported or alluvial soil will stand hard tillage for years. This is well established by the abuse of such lands for the past two hundred years, and this abuse has done much to render them unproductive and unprofitable to the owner.

It is true the different fertilizers have been of great use in improving the crops, yet every farmer knows they often fail. With the writer, repeated experiments with the most expensive fertilizers have proven a complete failure. Let us then ask what is it that constitutes a fertile, rich, porous soil? The mass of the earth, and this includes all soils, is composed of three elements, viz. silicon, oxygen and aluminum, oxide of silicon (sand) and silicate of alumina (clay) which have a common origin in the primary, or igneous rocks, and have all the important elements of a mineral nature found in the vegetable kingdom. As much of Maryland is composed of such material, and of almost unlimited depth, the problem to be answered is, why have they become in many cases almost worthless, so that land can be bought at your own price, and thousands of acres are grown up with scrubby pines, where in former years rank corn and tobacco grew?

Besides the mineral elements belonging

to a fertile soil, there is a movable one, which gives the peculiar dark color to sand and clay, extending from an inch or two to as many feet in some alluvial sections. This is all important to secure the full effect of fertilizers: i. e. the chemical action which must take place between heat, air water and mother earth. Carbonaceous matter is necessary. It is this gives the dark color to soils, and without it land will forever remain sterile. When the people in the Ark and the Dove reached our shores, they found this dark soil formed from the decaying roots, leaves and stems of past ages, as the emigrant now finds the same in the rich, alluvial soils of the west. The tendency of carbon is to seize oxygen and return to its former condition of carbonic acid; which acid is mingled with the atmosphere in about the proportions of one pound of acid to twenty-five hundred pounds of air.

Land by long tillage in tobacco and corn loses or releases this carbon, and the fine sand and clays settle down into a hard-pan impervious to air and water, while without these, plants like animals cannot live, no matter how rich the land may be with potash, phosphorus, magnesia, lime, &c. But how shall we restore the lost carbon? There is but one way, imitate nature, draw it down from the air through some plant; let it be sedge, ferns, weeds, clover, or what is better peas, which have a quick growth; turn them under, and repeat the dose until the decaying carbonaceous matter supplies the deficiency. Soon the compact soil will lighten up, water and air will circulate, and a new life commences. Thus a pathway is opened for plants of a higher order such as will sustain man and beast. All farmers know the effect of well rotted manure on the poor white spots in the field where nothing would grow. To secure like results it is not necessary to pass the vegetable matter through some animal, for the animal adds nothing to it, on the contrary, takes away much of the actual carbon that would be secured by turning under what I have above mentioned. The third question comes in turn. What is the action of carbon? for surely carbon cannot enter the plant or afford direct food for building up the organized matter; although from 60 to 65 per ct. of vegetable matter is carbon. I answer the question from the standpoint of facts, and will call to my assistance some speculative views which I can only ask the reader to



treat kindly, and not ridicule as theories and speculations on this subject sometimes are.

I have seen under my own use the remarkable effect of carbon, and when it is known that this element is one of the most remarkable known to man, being the base of all animal and vegetable matter, the source of all animal heat, fat and flesh, no one can be surprised at the value the writer places upon it, especially when some of his experiments are brought before the reader. But first let me answer the question at the head of my last sentence.

Carbon when deposited between the fine sand and clay, separates the particles, and owing to its perfect insolubility, remains stationary, allowing the air and water to circulate freely, and thereby enables the soil to draw from these two agents carbonic acid and nitrogen, with which the atmosphere is loaded, and which composes ninety-eight per cent. of every thing that grows, the other two per cent. being supplied by the earth, and made up of lime, potash, phosphoric acid, chlorine, magnesia, &c.

Again, carbon like anything black has the power of absorbing the heat of the sun, and thereby secures to a certain degree this important agent for the growth of organic matter. Besides heat it has the power of absorbing all gaseous matter, and especially ammoniacal matter which is found in all rain water, falling dews and circulating air. To test this matter cover a putrefying piece of flesh with finely ground charcoal, and see how quickly the offensive escaping gas disappears by the force of the attractive carbon. Place on a warm stove the two loving articles and quickly the old smell will appear. This proves the fact of the absorbing power of my friend.

With the exception of hydrogen, carbon has the greatest power of locking up sun heat, which heat is again brought in play when its other friend oxygen steps in and converts it into its old condition of carbonic acid, and then it is ready to make another trip from the air to some simple plant, and finally to humic acid, terminating in carbon, or charcoal, with its locked up sun heat; i. e. it is the sun's agent to transmit his heat to be used by man and beast in the support of life, through organized food and burning material.

As to the effect of carbon. On the 30th

of July I sowed on the parched grass and hard soil a bag of charcoal dust obtained from a rectifier's store in the city, having been used to extract from whisky the offensive poisonous matter found in fresh corn whisky, often made from defective, spoilt corn. No rain falling in August, the dust remained on the leaves and other portions of the weeds and grass for some time. Before September a marked change took place; the growth of grass compared with the adjoining plot was rapid, and soon a dark green color took the place of the faded sunburnt vegetation, and the effect was easily seen at some distance, showing that there must have been a rapid formation of chlorophyll. Science tells us that the peculiar function of this sensitive compound is to decompose carbonic acid, and induce the plant to take up and appropriate carbon in building up starch and sugar. Much as I may differ with science on this question, it may suit me in offering the speculative portion of my article. Chlorophyll is a compound composed of four elements, carbon, oxygen, hydrogen and nitrogen. No mineral matter, hence all from the air. During the time we had many dews, which as is known contain both ammonia and carbonic acid. The absorbing carbon drawing to it the two articles necessary to form vegetable life, presented them in a concentrated form, and this may account for the rapid growth. Along side of this application, a heavy dressing of a superphosphate made for the occasion was applied, and as yet I have not seen the least effect. Yet, reader, do not think this fact impairs my confidence in a good phosphate when the land needs phosphorus; but I present these facts to prove that carbon is an important agent. The ground being dark from its application, the absorbed heat may have had something to do with the increased action. Whatever it may have been, facts speak for themselves.

In concluding this article let me urge upon those who have white, worn out lands, to darken them as soon as possible; and there is but one way of doing it. Draw from the air the small amount of carbon found in it, which object is accomplished by turning under the growing plants that will show themselves on poor land, and if possible secure a crop of peas, clover, weeds, &c., and by a few crops turned under, the soil will change, and the compact adhesive

soil and clay will become light and porous. Then by experiment find what mineral elements are missing, apply them, and thousands of acres of what is now known as waste and almost worthless land, will soon be covered with a green mantle, pleasant to the human eye, and tempting to beast. The good effects of turning under green manure is known to all, and from even a moderate growth of it turned under a good crop of wheat has followed. The reader will remember that the turning under of this manure adds nothing to the soil but what existed there before except the carbon, and as this so often proves a success, it is evidence that many of our soils have every mineral element necessary for a crop. This applies more especially to our transported soil, of which so much can be found in Maryland and which is so easy to till, usually being entirely free from stone.

These facts generally known will assure the emigrant that many advantages can be found within our state, and among the number cheaper lands may be classed as one of the most tempting.

A. P. SHARP.

*Baltimore, Md.*

For the Maryland Farmer.

### Leaf Mould.

Decayed vegetable matter is one of the most important of the elements of soil fertility.—This pleasant and dry autumn weather is just the time for collecting the leaves and surface mould from the woods. Get the material out on the fields as rapidly as possible now, before the rains and frosts set in to make the labor unpleasant. It were well to have it spread broadcast over all the ground occupied by crops the past summer. It saves labor and time to take it direct to the fields and spread it from the carts, or deposit it in heaps to be spread by other hands following the carts. If put on rather thick, as it should be, say an inch deep, the mould will be collecting nitrogen all winter, and will act as a mulch to the land, causing it to grow mellow and porous before spring time, and thus be in a condition to break up finely and easily before the plow. In this particular alone, the application of forest mould to land at this season results in incalculable benefit when preparing the ground for summer crops. This important use is too much over-

looked by farmers. How often do we find land in the spring that has become so close and compact by the beating and hardening effect of the winter rains, as to be very difficult to put in order as it should be with the plow and harrow. A thick mulch of leaf mould, put on the land now, will obviate entirely this difficulty, besides imparting other benefits and fertilizing the soil.

Lose no time, then, in getting out the leaves and mould to be spread over the fields to shelter the soil, and add fertility to the land by their decay. It will be found especially beneficial on clayey and tenacious soils, and all such as need opening and aerating. The benefits in this case are as much mechanical as manurial. But even very light soils are helped by it. All land needs humus, and leaf mould is humus in its best form for the farmer's use. It is an admirable absorbant and retainer of the volatile and fertilizing elements of the atmosphere.

Of course the farmer will also use it largely in his cattle and stock pens and stalls and keep all the yards well littered, so that there will be no mire and slush under foot in winter. The compost heaps should be composed largely of it, for nothing acts better to mix with animal manures to prevent the escape of ammonia, &c. That farmer is indeed fortunate who has a plenty of forest mould on his place.

But used simply as a fertilizer, leaf mould possesses virtues of high value. Besides its mechanical effects, its mineral elements are of the first importance, and just such as are often most needed by soils, namely, lime, potash, soda, &c. Mould is, therefore, a much needed and very valuable manurial and mechanical agent for the amelioration of tillable land. Use it largely.

B. W. JONES.

### Young Men!—Read This.

The Voltaic Belt Co., of Marshall, Mich., offer to send their celebrated Electro Voltaic Belt and other Electric Appliances on trial for thirty days, to men (young or old), afflicted with nervous debility, loss of vitality and manhood, and all kindred troubles. Also for rheumatism, neuralgia, paralysis, and many other diseases. Complete restoration to health, vigor and manhood guaranteed. No risk incurred, as thirty days trial is allowed. Write them at once for illustrated pamphlet, free.



### Miss. Agricultural College Notes.

This college has turned out two graduating classes.

The college is well equipped in every respect, including large and handsome buildings.

It owns 1,900 acres of land, most of which is utilized for pasture. There are about 200 or more head of cattle on the farm, comprising a small herd each of Holsteins, Devons, Ayrshires, Hereford and Galloways. The balance are a selection of the best native stock, and quite a number of grades of several breeds.

Prof. Gulley thinks the Holstein grade calves the larger and more thrifty, as a rule, than any others on the farm, but requires considerably more feed. There is no doubt the Holsteins are very large consumers.

The stock (especially cattle) department is expected to become in time a very large source of profit to the College.

Mr. Jno. Harvey of last year's graduating class was sent West and East the past summer to inspect the best private dairies, and creameries, and to learn practical butter making in all its details, with a view of preparing himself to assume the duties and responsibilities of Professor of Dairying in the College at an early day.

As the trustees did not know of a suitable person who could be secured to fill this position, they wisely determined to select one of the college graduates for the place and prescribe for him a rigid course of study. The choice fell upon Mr. Harvey who gives promise of being competent to fill the chair with satisfaction to the friends of the College who have the dairy interest at heart, and who desire to see this special branch of agricultural industry fostered and developed at this institution.

Mr. Harvey has already, in a measure, entered upon his duties at the College. The dairy department however will not be fully equipped for work for several months yet. There are now 35 cows in the college dairy, but as yet no butter is made. The milk is sold to the manager of the mess Hall where it is consumed by the students.

There are about 300 students now in attendance, a larger number than during any previous session.

However the number of students has never at one time been less than 175.

The trustees have decided to admit girls

and young ladies, but as yet only 8 have matriculated.

A military discipline prevails under the direction of a detailed officer from the United States Army. The uniform is tasty and neat, but not costly.

Compulsory labor, of all the male students is rigidly adhered to. His labor is paid for at the rate of 8 cents per hour, and the money credited upon the student's board and general college expense account. Several students have by extra work paid their entire way through college.

Students are now admitted from other states by paying a small tuition fee—to state students the tuition is entirely free.

Board is very low, as is all necessary collegiate expenses.

The boys work willingly and cheerfully, and all are favored alike without any discrimination as to birth or parentage—high born and low born—rich and poor, all on the same level. None think it a disgrace to work, and labor seems to them all honorable.

The College is largely patronized by the best families in the state, including the sons of Congressmen, Governors, Legislators, and others high in public esteem and office.

The faculty is well equipped.

Several tutors have been supplied from the institution's own graduates.

The State Legislature have made liberal appropriations to the College, and the general disposition of the people all over the state is to support the College with a liberal hand.

The Institution is intensely practical.

A practical agricultural college in fact, as well as in name. The trustees are practical men with practical minds, and have the strong nerve to enforce their plans and carry out their ideas without fear or favor from any source.

The College was extremely fortunate in securing Gen. Stephen D. Lee as President. He is the right man in the right place, and his views are in full harmony with those of the trustees.

In many respects the Mississippi College is a model after which many so called agricultural colleges in the North and West, as well as the South, would do well to imitate in a number of respects.

EDWIN MONTGOMERY,

Miss., Dec. 4th, 1884.



### Pluck.

The year that is now closing has been one that will be long remembered by all classes as one of exceptionally low prices. In fact all have felt the effect of over production and none more so than ourselves. And as winter is the heaviest time for thought as the other seasons are of active exertion, it becomes us all the more to study up their causes and see if we can not change them into blessings, and not to stand and sit expecting some one to come to our rescue.

We all need pluck—and that kind that having marked out a course in whatever calling it may be, follow it with a fixed determination to succeed though it take years to triumph, and success will come at last?

'Tis thus with many farmers to day, some are ready to abandon their farms and neighborhoods and to rush into some unknown business, and some instead of standing bravely up and bearing the burdens that bear so heavily upon them, are ready to cry out in despair. To all I say hold on to your farms as a most precious heritage, as once gone they are gone most likely forever.

Wheat is low, and corn is low, and no money in my pocket, what shall I do? I hear some one say. "My friend, that is just the way I found myself a few years ago when prices took just such a drop, and after selling my wheat crop, expecting it to meet all emergencies and to have a neat little sum over beside. I went home and studied over the matter and the low prices that year did me more good than if I had realized double prices for all my crops."

"Come let us reason together," says the prophet. Diversify your products, what wheat you put in, put it in the best manner you can; if you have 150 acres of land (which is a good sized farm) put in 25 to 30 acres—and say the same amount for corn—and the same for clover and timothy or what ever crop may suit your soil—but do not undertake any more than you can thoroughly manage.

At this writing my cattle are all in the barn and yards, and in warm and comfortable quarters. The milk cows are fed millfeed and corn and oat meal with oat straw, clover hay and corn fodder in equal parts and cut up and mixed. The young stock are fed corn fodder cut and mixed with a

little millfeed and corn and cob meal and some flax seed meal occasionally, and bedded heavily, and the stables cleaned out daily and put in a large pile.

This yard is now being filled with fallen leaves and straw that can be spared from the stables, sods, &c, &c.—and in this way I make enough manure to cover the corn ground and to top dress maybe some 5 to 10 acres of meadow. Lime acts well on most soils and wherever the shells can be had they can be burnt with logs and brush wood, and thus a valuable manure can be obtained for the labor.

If you buy fertilizers buy but little, depend upon home resources, sell butter and eggs, sheep, lambs, young and fatted stock, feed millfeed and your corn to these and the manure resulting from this feeding will be worth 4 and 5 times the value of any fertilizer.

When I buy millfeed I know by experience that if I pay even \$20 per ton for it, the value that is left after feeding and the manure well taken care of is worth \$14 per ton on the land.

Economize in every way possible, but do not discharge any man if you have profitable employment for him by working up the home resources of manure. If more attention would be given to reading on our employments good and sound papers and books, and then studying their ideas out by practical work, much good can be accomplished these winter evenings.

F. SANDERSON.

### Plains Farm.

*The Massachusetts Ploughman* says that agricultural colleges are deservedly in public favor. They should be independent in every way.

### Consumption Cured.

An old physician retired from practice, having had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma, and all Throat and Lung affections, also a positive and radical cure for nervous debility and all nervous complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellows. Actuated by this motive and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who desire it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail by addressing with stamp, naming this paper. W. A. NOYES, 149 Power's Block, Rochester, N. Y.

For the Maryland Farmer.

### Narrow Gauge Farmers.

Farmers may very well be divided into two classes, broad and narrow gauge. The first run, as it were, on a broad track, do business for the general and foreign trade, and look beyond the home market for their buyers. They are the large or standard gauge farmers, and are generally the best informed and most far-seeing of their class. They read books and newspapers, and keep well informed of the state of the markets, and of all that transpires in the industrial, especially in the agricultural world. But more of these in a future article. My business at present is with the latter, or narrow gauge, men.

The operations of the narrow gauge farmer are confined exclusively to his own neighborhood. His market is the home market, (often the nearest country store), and he never looks beyond his own door for a market for anything he has to sell. Indeed the true narrow gauge man has but little if any surplus of anything to sell. He assumes to raise enough to eat and drink and something to wear at home, and maybe enough of eggs, or wool, or bacon to barter at the store for groceries and his Sunday clothes. If he does this, and succeeds in bringing up the year square, he is pretty well satisfied, and so does not trouble himself about broad gauge ideas. He does not take the papers, does not read, keeps no bank account, does not advertise, and so has very little to trouble him, and keeps the even tenor of his way with felicity and satisfaction. Why should he read? He has no interest in the foreign market, and what others are doing does not concern him. Why should he advertise? He has nothing to sell, except perhaps a bit of wood or a little timber. To advertise that would be a waste of printer's ink. And he never attempts to raise any improved stock or product for sale. He is satisfied if he merely makes a living, takes life easy, and does not borrow trouble. He is not progressive, his ways and manners are stereotyped. What he is to-day, bating his surroundings, he will be to-morrow, next decade, and next century. He is, in effect, the "hewer of wood and drawer of water" in the circle of industry.

And yet the narrow gauge farmer is not all at fault. There are some good things

about him. He occupies one extreme of the industrial scale, but without him the broad gauge men and the progressive money-loving world would be at a serious loss. He has his mission. The only question is, can he afford to occupy the place he does? Can he afford to be a merely narrow gauge man, when, by a little more independence and pluck he might raise himself to be a thorough broad gauge? This is the question, a question that concerns every one individually. This is a progressive age, and the art and science of farming must be progressive too. An industrious, progressive, debt-free yeomanry is the nation's nobility, but to be such we must get off the narrow gauge track on to broader principles.

Can the narrow gauge farmer do this? As I said, his ways are stereotyped, and if he gets out of the old worn ruts of his car wheel it must be by outside pressure. Who is to bring this pressure to bear? Men of broad ideas, the progressivities, must do it. They must talk and reason, and get the men of short gauge to thinking and reading. This is what is wanted. Thought must be awakened, ambition must be aroused. Here is where the broad gauge men have been at fault. They have not done enough in getting other men to read and think. They have not tried to circulate agricultural books, papers, and magazines.

This is the great want of the age. The masses need light, intellectual light. It is a lamentable fact that not one in ten of the mass of farmers takes an agricultural or any other newspaper. How can they help being narrow gauge? Now it is the duty of every man of enlightened mind to do something for his community and people. And how could one do more than to get the masses to read, to awaken thought and healthy ambition? If at first people cannot be induced to subscribe for a paper, lend them your own for awhile. Get them to read, and the desire for something to read will follow. Let us all try and see what we can do. These narrow gauge men are good and useful, but they can be made more so by a little outside pressure. Let us at least do what we can. Let us try to be broad gauge ourselves, and to help others be broad gauge.

B. W. J.

**CLEANING HOUSE**—How to do it by kalsomine and paint, fully described in "Everybody's Paint Book," a new work just issued. See advertisement in this number.







### Notice.

There are thousands of subscribers and readers of the Maryland Farmer who will be pleased to hear that the Farmer was never enjoying so high a degree of prosperity as it is to day, nor receiving so much encouragement as it is daily receiving from its friends over the country. Its subscription list has never increased as fast as at the present time. It still keeps its lead as one of the most valuable Agrl. Journals in the country. We are crowded with matter this month and some of our correspondence will have to be laid over for next month.

We advise our subscribers not merely to glance over the articles but to read each one carefully these winter nights, and you will not regret it. The mind is never so full but there is room for more.

### Maryland Farmer Purchasing Agency.

With an experience of more than 40 years in manufacturing, purchasing and selling agricultural implements in our city, and our present complete business arrangements we feel that we can materially aid the farmer in the purchase of farm implements and machinery of every description; also Seeds, Fertilizers, Herd Book and Grade Stock, Poultry, Agricultural Books, &c., &c. Our acquaintance with manufacturers and the markets, enables us to supply any article for the farmer, of the best quality, and at the lowest prices; and as we do not charge any commission, we cannot be considered 'middlemen.' All orders entrusted to us, by mail or otherwise, accompanied by the cash, or its equivalent, will meet with prompt attention.

The National Convention of Swine Breeders and Pork Packers, will be held at Washington, D. C., January 14th, 1885.

### Twenty Days Notice.

In our December issue we enclosed circular containing proposition to subscribers who were in arrears to make payment on or before January 1st. 1885 We are much pleased to say that it was generally accepted by those in arrears who seemed to appreciate our generous offer; but we are sorry to have to state that there are yet a few who probably did not see the circular, or, if they did, must have overlooked it.

Our object in now calling your attention to it, is, to say that we will extend the proposition 20 days longer, but after the expiration of that time it will be withdrawn and all those in arrears will be expected to settle their accounts at once at the full price.

### Our Visit To Dr. Ward.

Our Domesticated Animals are, to us, objects of great solicitude in sickness and in health, and we wonder, when we reflect on the value represented, not to say a word about the anxiety, labour, expense, pleasure and disappointment attending the raising of live stock.

In this our own state we possess pedigree herds second to none in any other state, and our horses are no mean assortment.

Any judge or amateur travelling through Maryland will find this to be so, our cattle and our swine for pedigree will satisfy such that emulation abounds amongst the Live Stock Breeders here.

Unfortunately for the stock raisers, there exists at frequent intervals, severe scourges among the neat cattle and swine as well as Distemper and Pink eye among the horses, which tends to much discouragement and heavy losses—in this enterprise as with others.

When such calamities befall our studs, flocks and herds we are obliged to look around us for aid and assistance to that useful, and important, although somewhat

neglected profession in this country, the Veterinary Art.

Educated gentlemen in this profession do not abound in this country, and there is not much likelihood they will, till more encouragement and recognition is held out to the educated to enter the ranks of the profession.

Maryland has however every reason to feel exuberant on the choice of our State Veterinay Surgeon Dr. Robert Ward, in selecting this City and State for his home and sphere of professional labor, we speak thus from what we know and have seen.

On the 4th of this present month we found ourselves, unexpectedly almost, seated in Dr. Ward's spacious and elegant offices 380 W. Baltimore Street, we need hardly say—it was our first visit, and so delighted were we with what we saw that we felt it incumbent on us to note the fact or facts, not for the Doctor's benefit so much as for those of our readers who may not yet have made his acquaintance.

On entering the offices from Baltimore Street we found ourselves in a well arranged Pharmacy, or Medical Dispensary, we could not say Drug Store; for there was an air of privacy about the offices which led one to know that drugs were not sold here, *only dispensed*.

We noticed that everything was in order and the drugs of the finest, principally from the well known house of Sharpe & Dohme of this city.

In a case we noticed medicines prepared and labelled ready for cases of emergency, together with surgical instruments of all kinds and for all patients in a glass case ready for immediate use.

Passing through the Pharmacy we entered a spacious office adjoining, which we found was the general office and consulting room, furnished in a business like manner with various diplomas obtained at the Royal Colleges of England and a neat book-case holding modern medical works and literary works bearing thereon.

Passing along the passage we found ourselves in a spacious Lecture Room with seating accommodations for an audience of 50 Lecture table, morbid and anatomical specimens on a side table, and around the walls were hung a complete set of anatomical plates, the finest we ever saw—twelve in number.

In the rear of the Consulting Room is the Laboratory for preparing the various medicines, and on the ground floor is the Doctor's anatomical workshop.

These remarks and outlines will suffice to show that the proprietor is an earnest man, and the writings and lectures given by him show that he has the interests of the profession and his clientele at heart.

With regard to Dr. Ward himself we found him as we always have, most courteous and gentlemanly—displaying that cordiality and happy disposition so characteristic of a genuine Englishman.

In reply to our inquiries he said he was making very fair progress and felt satisfied with his success—for he was posted when he came that he would find his *course* here *slow* but *sure*. He said that his intention was to persevere until he established a first-class Veterinary Infirmary, and he invited us to visit his present temporary one, adjoining his residence on the York Road, Waverly.

Here we found a barn erected fitted with spacious loose boxes and stalls—operating shed—exercising ground and paddock and lastly not least, an Infirmary for invalid pet or Sporting Dogs.

This temporary establishment the Dr. informs me has been well patronized ever since it was opened, we saw a patient from Washington, a sorrel horse having a tumor on the outer side of the hock, which the Doctor was to operate on, another from Annapolis suffering from *Elephantiasis*—a valuable young horse, a bad case—other patients from the city—we mention these cases to show that the Doctor has earnt a



reputation extending outside the city limits already.

This short editorial we have penned purely out of a feeling of duty—because we have reason to know that Dr. Ward is an earnest worker and explorer in his profession—we therefore desire to encourage him—and no better way to do so occurred to us, than this record of our visit to his Offices, and entreating our friends to visit and patronize him, feeling assured they will profit by his acquaintance.

## THE DAIRY.

### How To Make Good Milkers.

No matter what breed you have, says Mr. W. H. White in *Country Gentleman*, something further is necessary in order to reach the best success in raising good milkers. Good blood, whether Short-horn, Jersey, Devon, Ayrshire grade or native, is not everything, but lies at the foundation; something cannot come from nothing. Treatment in raising milkers should be somewhat different from that in raising a beef animal, or an animal for labor. Begin as soon as the calf is a day old; see that it has sufficient to eat, and is kindly treated and regularly attended to. Never pamper or over-feed, but give it good, generous food to cause a regular early and steady growth. Accustom it to be handled, but not to such an extent as to acquire objectionable habits as a cow, but rather to be fond of the presence of the keeper. Kindness helps to create a quiet disposition, so important in a dairy cow, and this education must begin when the calf is young—any habits acquired when young are apt to cling to the cow when grown.

For a milker, I would have the heifer come in at two years old. She is then old enough to become a cow. I would not as a rule allow her to go farrow, but milk her up to within a few weeks of calving, even if I did not obtain but little at a milking. A cow thus trained will give more milk, and be more likely to hold out long in milk if her after care is judicious and liberal, as it should be. Such treatment tends to form the habit of giving milk and, as we know, habit is a sort of second nature. Couple

the heifer with an older bull, one, two or three years older than she is, is preferable to a yearling and better stock is likely to come from such. After the heifer has come in, her feed should be regular and liberal. Good clover hay is the best of all, but we all may not have this for stall feed; then we must make up for what is lacking in some concentrated feed, such as oat meal, shorts, oil meal, or the like, but great care and good judgement must be used not to over-feed or crowd, as the future cow may be ruined. Undue forcing shortens the useful life of the cow very rapidly.

## Correspondence.

NEW YORK, Nov. 21st, 1884.

EDITOR MARYLAND FARMER:

DEAR SIR: At a recent meeting of the Board of Directors of the American Jersey Cattle Club, it was resolved that the Club offer a premium of \$300 for the best essay, and \$200 for the second best essay on Jersey cattle; all competing essays to be the property of the club; all essays for competition to be sent to the Secretary on or before Feb. 1, 1885; the awards to be decided by a committee to be appointed by the Directors, and the form of requirements to be the same as those that governed previous competition.

These are, that each author shall send, with the manuscript copy of his essay, his name in a separate sealed envelope. The Secretary will number each essay and place a corresponding number upon the envelope, which he will deliver to the Committee, after they shall have made the awards.

Very respectfully,

THOS. J. HAND, Secretary.

In our last number, we gave a description of a butter factory in Maine, and we now learn that Iowa has 450; Illinois, 470; Wisconsin, 430; Minnesota, 139; making a total of 1689 in four States. And we again urge our farmers to take steps in establishing these factories in every county in our state.

PROMINENT BUTTER MAKERS—There is no dissent from the decision of candid and capable dairymen, that the Improved Butter Color of Wells, Richardson & Co., Burlington, Vt. is the best in the world. Such men as A. W. Cheever of Massachusetts, E. D. Mason, Vermont, Francis Hoffman, Wisconsin. Use it, and recommend it as superior to all others.

### Milk In Winter.

One of the advantages that the farmer possesses over classes of society, is that he can, if he chooses, enjoy the fresh products of his farm at all times.

Among these products there is none more desirable, and hardly more servicable than that of milk. Besides being an article of food in itself of the best possible character, being that upon which the earliest life depends, it is an important factor in the household economy in the production of butter and cheese. and further than this as an aid in cookery it is almost indispensable. Without milk how would the good housewife be able to make the renowned yankee pumpkin pie, delicious enough to place before a king. It is always the endeavor of the farmer to so arrange the time of calving as to insure being in full milk during the summer season when the cows are at the best feed. This is all well as a matter of actual profit, dollars and cents being the basis, but the farmer should look to something more than the simple accumulation of dollars and cents, the matter of the comfort and pleasure of his family. To accomplish this to the fullest extent at least one cow should be kept in milk during the winter or through the season when the others are dry, and may be accomplished either by keeping one farrow through the winter or by arranging to have a cow come in about the commencement of winter, when the supply of milk may be all that need be desired. But it must be remembered that in winter the feed is very unlike what it is in summer and without some special attention the flow of milk will be less than it would be in a flush of grass. To remedy this some feed in the shape of roots, corn meal, where middlings or cotton seed meal will serve a good purpose. Pumpkins, partially rotted apples and house slops can also be used profitably. In using corn meal if the quantity given is too large, it is liable to reduce instead of increasing the milk, and to avoid this, by using wheat middling mixed with the meal in about equal proportions, the flow of milk is not only maintained, but its richness is also improved.

It will not do to feed a milch cow poorly with the expectation of obtaining any satisfactory returns.

Well cured clover hay or any upland

aftermath that is well cured will go far toward supplying a good milk diet. Corn tops cut and well cured are also considered excellent food for milch cows. Either of the above will be satisfactory if supplemented with the meal feed.

WILLIAM H. YEOMANS,  
*Columbia, Conn.*

### HORTICULTURAL.

#### Among The Norfolk Truckers.

After a most delightful trip down the bay upon the Palatial Steamer Florida, I found myself again among old friends and fellow-truckers from Anne Arundel Co. who had moved there in years previous. It is due to our famous County to state just here that the pioneer of "truck farming" at Norfolk, Mr. Geo. Cromwell, came from Anne Arundel Co. some 40 years ago, and first begun the business which most of all has tended to build up the present thriving and important city of Norfolk. Admirably situated, with a soil and climate peculiarly suited for truck farming, it is no wonder that the business has grown to such immense proportions. It remained however for the northern people to learn the natives the art of trucking which has long since changed the entire system of farming within a radius of ten miles of Norfolk and Portsmouth. The people of Norfolk were not slow to learn however, and now vie with their Northern brethren in the production of the different early vegetable and fruits so common in our markets long in advance of the Anne Arundel products. Some of the best truckers near Norfolk (and there are quite a number) came from our County, and still more are looking with longing eyes to this highly favored spot, for it is well known that Southern truckers get the "cream" of the markets.

Owing to the drought the past four months which I was told was the greatest known in fifty years, everything was looking at its worst, Kale and Spinach which usually hide the ground at this season was just coming up, and badly at that, with the prospect of being too tender to stand the winter should it be a severe one. I did not see ten acres of good well grown Kale or Spinach in Norfolk Co., where two years ago I saw five hundred. Cabbage plants were scarce on account of seed failing to



come up in the buds and nearly all were depending upon those sown late in hot beds. The outlook is not very encouraging to the majority as the probability now is that those three main crops named will be late, coming in competition with northern grown cabbage and greens. One thing about the cultivation of Kale and Spinach near Norfolk is worthy of notice, and that is the sowing of such in drills instead of beds as usually practiced at the North, by this method they may be readily cultivated with plow and hoe, and can be grown on quite sandy and indifferent soil.

Strawberries are the most important of all the fruits grown here and are shipped in large quantities to all parts of the North and West. The picking season lasts from three to four weeks, although it seldom pays to pick after the third week, as they are then crowded out of the more northern markets.

Early Tomatoes form another important crop, but why they will persist in growing and shipping the worthless variety known as "Norfolk Puffs" is a mystery. They contain little else besides air, and its only recommendation is its shipping qualities, as it will dry up before it will rot,

As manure is scarce and high commercial fertilizers are very largely used, as much as one ton per acre often being used during one season, which are long enough however to admit of several crops annually. The soil is sandy, with clay subsoil, and as level as a prairie; it is elevated above the sea not more than eight feet upon the average, the highest point in Norfolk county being but twenty feet above sea level.

Society is good, roads excellent, timber plenty, land reasonable in price, climate healthy, fish, game, oysters and water-fowl plentiful, and altogether it is a famous county for good living, &c.

Respectfully, R. S. C.

W. W. Meech, says in note to us Dec. 4th, that his Quince we had illustrated in our last number has been in great demand this fall, far beyond all expectation for the trees. The smallest tree that bore was 16 inches high, and grown from a cutting the size of a pen holder in 1883. Besides bearing a handsome quince that is too large to go into a tumbler it has grown 2½ feet this year.

## Live Stock Register.

### The Aaggie Family of Holsteins.

EDITOR OF THE MARYLAND FARMER: We send you herewith a cut of the group of the Aaggie family, recently drawn from life by the young American artist, Cecil Palmer. The original picture, of which this is a reduced copy, he pronounces the most natural and finest work of his life. Each animal was accurately and carefully drawn, giving a very close portrait of each as it then appeared. This group consists of Aaggie, her son Neptune, Aaggie Rosa, Aaggie Beauty, Aaggie Beauty 2d, Aaggie Kathleen, Aaggie May and her calf Horace, by Neptune. The Aaggie, we believe is conceded to be the largest milking family yet produced of any breed.

Lady Clifden, a sister to Aaggie, was the first cow ever known to have produced 16,275 pounds of milk in a year.

Aaggie was the first cow to produce 18,000 pounds in a year.

Her daughter Aaggie 2d is the only two-year-old that has ever given 17,746 pounds in a year.

Aaggie Clara, imported by us last year, was the first two-year-old to give 65 pounds in a day.

Aaggie Constance, the marvellous two-year-old, which has given us, this season, 76 pounds 6 ounces in 24 hours; so far has no equal.

Aaggie Rosa gave last year, the first season after importation, when not fully acclimated, 16,156 pounds 10 ounces in a year.

Aaggie Beauty, commencing in February, only a month after coming out of quarantine, when three years old past, gave 13,573 pounds 15 ounces in a year.

Aaggie Beauty, 2d commencing in February, at 23 months of age when only a month out of quarantine, gave 9684 pounds 2 ounces in 11 months 14 days, when she was due to drop her next calf.

Aaggie May, three years old, has given this season, over 9,000 pounds in 7 months.

Aaggie Idaline, imported last Autumn, has given, to date, over 11,500 pounds in 9 months.

Aaggie Idaline 2d, imported at the same time, has given, to date, in 9½ months, over 10,400 pounds.

Aaggie Idaline 3d, four years old, imported at the same time, has given in 9 months, to date, over 9500 pounds.

Aaggie Kathleen, imported at the same time, has given, to date, in 8 months, over 10,000 pounds.

Aaggie Bonnie, four years old, has given, this season, nearly 9000 pounds in 7 months.

Aaggie Cora, four years old, has given over 9600 pounds in 7 months.

Aaggie Cornelia, sister to Aaggie, imported last Autumn, has given, to date, 10,366 pounds in 8 months.

Aaggie Cornelia 2d, imported at the same time, over 9000 pounds in 8½ months.

Aaggie Cornelia 3d, four years old, imported at the same time, over 8500 pounds in 5 months.

Aaggie Rosa 2d, four years old, over 7300 pounds in 5½ months.

Aaggie Sarah, four years old, over 6500 pounds in 3½ months.

Aaggie Constance, two years old, over 9500 pounds in 6 months and 12 days.

Several other members of this family have done equally well, but we will not extend the list. We think no other family can make a corresponding showing.

Our Netherland family has records nearly equal to the above, while the entire original Netherland family, all bought of one party in Holland and all he owned, six head, have weekly butter records which average for the whole number 16 pounds, 7 7-12 ounces per week.

Our last importation of 169 head reached here safely last week from quarantine, in very fine condition. They are an elegant lot, mostly heifers, the only cow being the dam of the marvellous two-year-old Aaggie Constance.

Our former importation was safely landed some time since, and their pedigrees are given in our new catalogue, just issued, making 400 head imported this season, and over 1750 head that we have imported and bred to date.

These cattle were selected by one of our firm in person, who has had several years experience in Holland, and is familiar with the best herds and best families in that country. He left here last February, in order to have the first choice, and also to be there at a season of the year when he could see the dams of most of the animals purchased in full milk. He spent several months in selecting with the utmost care,

and personally inspected the ancestors of nearly every animal bought.

At least three-fourths of the animals purchased this season are of the same breeding as families already imported by us, and which have proven, after a continued and satisfactory trial, to be very superior milkers. They consist of such families as the Aaggies, Netherlands, Artis', Alexanders, etc., all of which have proven very remarkable. A large share of these animals are from stock recorded in the herd books of North Holland and Friesland, but we do not depend entirely upon those herd books for purity of breeding, as their records do not furnish to us satisfactory evidence in this respect. A large share of the animals therein recorded have no ancestry given—breeding unknown.

On this account we have not taken them as satisfactory authority on purity of blood, but have gone still farther and satisfied ourselves, from personal examination and inquiry, that every animal we have imported is pure, and according to the rules of the Holstein Association of America, have required the affirmation of the breeder of each animal to establish the fact. Besides we have traced the pedigrees much farther and more carefully than can be done from any of the herd books of Holland or Friesland, as may be shown to the satisfaction of any interested party by examination of our catalogue.

In speaking of pedigree we will here add (that we may not be misunderstood) that the term "pedigree," as ordinarily used, is very deceptive. It is of little value only as it traces to animals of superior merit and breeding; and as the only true evidence of superior merit is in actual performance, we have, for the last eight years, been to large expense, both of time and money, in carefully testing and proving the actual merit of every milking animal in our herd, not only for a day or for a month, but for the entire year, and not only for one year but for a series of years, so that any party interested can learn the exact capacity of every cow in milk on our place during that time. It is for this reason that we have been to great pains and additional expense in importing those young animals, which contain the same blood as those animals which have proven themselves superior here. By referring to our advertisement in your paper your readers can form an ac-



curate estimate of the performances of our herd by the number of average records therein given, and in our catalogue they will find the milk records of all the animals, whether good or poor.

We did not, until we had carefully made this experiment, appreciate the difference in families, but we found that, while we would import animals which came equally well recommended and in appearance equally good, that certain families would give fully double the amount of milk on the same feed as others, thus, of course, showing a vast difference, which could not by any means, be discovered without these trials.

In making our records we have given our cows good care and have fed liberally, but have not crowded or overfed or injured our animals in so doing. All have made their records year after year, and have usually increased the same after the first trial.

We are glad to observe that our deepest milkers, as a class, are proving to be our finest animals, very handsome, fine bone, fine quality in all particulars, straight, fine heads, necks, etc., and this gives us double assurance regarding this season's importations, as we think they are the finest in quality, the most symmetrical in form, of any we have ever made.

We are very glad to have all parties interested in dairy stock, whether purchasers or not, make an examination of our herd, of our records, etc., and judge for themselves regarding their quality.

We have on hand over 100 head of the Aaggie family, and quite a number of them contain seventy-five per cent. or more of the same blood as the phenomenal cow Aaggie 2d, which, all things considered, has made the most marvellous record, according to her age, yet known.

Neptune, one of the bulls at the head of our herd, is a full brother to this wonderful cow.

Netherland Prince, another bull at the head of our herd, now four years old, and which has taken three first prizes and one second at the New York State fair, contains 75 to 100 per cent. of the same blood as Netherland Queen, Netherland Princess, Netherland Belle, Netherland Duchess and Netherland Consort, the five cows whose weekly average butter records was 17 pounds 2.1-6 ounces, although two of them were but three years old.

Our heifers imported this season have been bred to our Netherland and Aaggie bulls, thus greatly increasing their value.

SMITHS & POWELL.

Syracuse, N. Y., Dec. 4th, 1884.

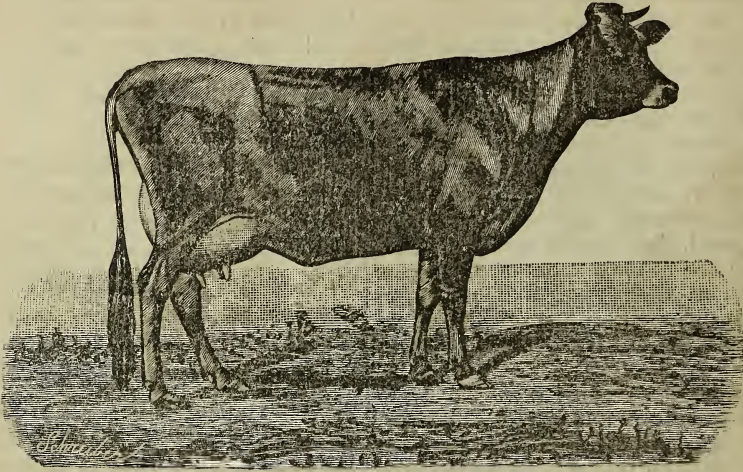
#### The Clarence Kirklevington Steir.

In our April number 1883 we gave a beautiful illustration of this white Short-Horn Steir in his one-year-old form, when he took first premium in his class at the Chicago Fat Stock show for 1882. He again took first prize as best Short-Horn two and under 3 years, also the sweepstakes premium for this breed in the Feeders ring for steers of this age, at the same show for 1883 and again in 1884 at the same show, he won sweepstakes as best Short-Horn on exhibition and also the grand sweepstakes as best in the show. This splendid animal when brought to the block—the final test and most conclusive—his superiority was attested by winning the grand sweepstakes for best dressed carcass, against all beef animals and breeds. Last year his live weight was 2,045 lbs.; age in days 1,009; average gain per day from birth, 2.02 lbs. This year, Nov. 11, his weight was 2,400 lbs.; age in days, 1,372; average gain from birth, per day, 1.74 lbs.

Clarence Kirklevington was bred by the Canada West Farm Stock Association, Brantford, Ont. His sire was the Duke bull, 4th Duke of Clarence (33,597) and his dam Kirklevington Duchess of Horton, was in the A. J. Alexander herd of Ky.

We again notice this animal because he has become famous and his name will live in the annals of the Short-Horn race as one of the best of the great breed.

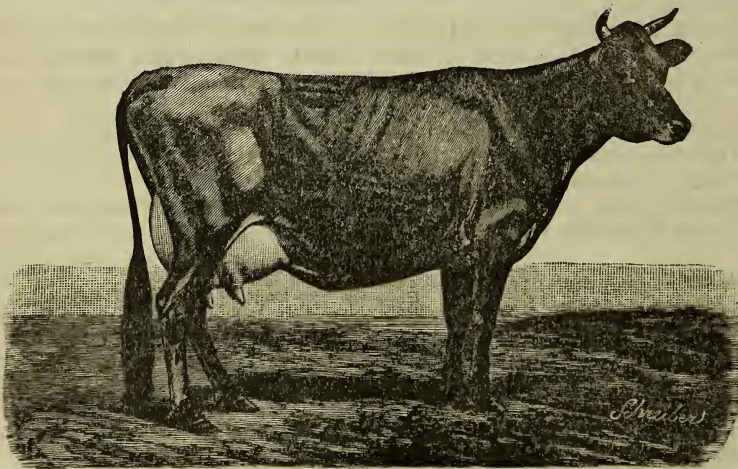
**MERITED PRAISE.**—The universal praise bestowed upon Kidney-Wort as an invaluable remedy for all disorders of the Kidneys, Liver and Bowels, is well merited. Its virtues are universally known and its cures are reported on all sides. Many obstinate cases have succumbed to it after they had been given up by the doctors and a thorough treatment will never fail to cure. Sold by all druggists. See adv't.



THE engravings appearing on this page represent the two Jersey cows, Golden Heart 29117 and Colt's La Biche 6399, included in Mr. T. S. Cooper's public sale, and brought respectively \$1,000 and \$1,200 each at the American Horse Exchange, New York, on Thursday, December 18th, the highest figures of the sale.

The former is a daughter of King (238,) the sire of King's Trust 18946 (test 18 lbs. at three years,) and Fillpail 2d, that made \$2,000 at auction. Her dam was Levina (2074), by Lemon (170), from whom descend the great butter cows, Nancy Lee 7618 (26 lbs. 8½ oz.) Nelly 6456 (21 lbs.) and Daisy of St. Peter's 18175 (20 lbs. 5½ oz.)

Colt's La Biche 6399 was got by Knave 1856, a son of Dusky 2525 (16 lbs. 10 oz.), dam La Biche 2d 4023 by Pierrot 636, a bull that has two daughters and fifteen grand-daughters with records of 14 lbs. or over.







BLACK JAVAS.

## THE POULTRY-HOUSE.

### The Black Javas.

The Black Javas are about the same in size as the Plymouth Rocks, and the two breeds are also somewhat similar in shape. Although the Plymouth Rocks are fast becoming the most popular of all breeds, and have an excellent reputation as layers, yet the Javas are said to equal them in every respect. As layers, some breeders claim the Javas as superior to their rivals.

We have secured for illustration the cut of a pair of Black Javas bred and owned by Dr. E. B. Weston, of Highland Park, Ill. Dr. Weston is enthusiastic in his praise of the Black Javas, claiming that with him they had proved themselves equal to any class of fowls bred by him, they being first-class market and table fowls, hardy, and much above the average for laying. This

claim in their favor is very complimentary, for Dr. Weston also breeds Wyandottes, Plymouth Rocks, White and Brown Leghorns and White Cochins. He is also corroborated by other breeders who place the Javas high on the list as a general-purpose fowl.

In plumage the Black Javas are a brilliant metallic black, with black beaks, and black (or nearly black) legs. The eyes are brown and mild, the comb red, single, and evenly serrated, while the wattles and earlobes are red. The tail of the cock is ornamented with long and graceful sickle feathers, the breast deep and full, the body broad long and deep, giving the bird a compact appearance. The thighs are strong, and covered with soft fluff, and the bottoms of the feet are yellow, the shanks being clean, without feathering, and, though black, approach willow in color as age comes on.

For the Maryland Farmer.

## Chapters on Chickens.

BY EXPERIENCE.

### CHAPTER I.

#### INTRODUCTORY—WHAT AND WHERE?

1. This is to give, in very brief items, ideas about Chickens: How to go about the business, and the best way of caring for them.

2. In almost every remark personal experience will speak.

3. Reader, if you do not have a personal pleasure and gratification in chickens and their care, you are not the one to keep them successfully. You had better not attempt it.

4. It is as a general thing light work; but be sure there is work, and plenty of it.

5. Be prepared to work yourself with both head and hand; for both will be called upon very frequently when no substitute will suffice.

9. Do not expect something for nothing. You cannot get it here any sooner than in another pursuit.

7. Even in those parts of the work which may be delegated to others, your eye must be present.

8. The work must not be neglected; for neglect will prove disastrous without fail.

9. Do not easily be discouraged. You can not expect to know at once all that others have learned by study and experiment through many years.

10. If you enjoy the possession and care of Chickens, and have a little tact, and a passable share of common sense, you will do.

11. Study some good Poultry Magazine, do the best you can, and do not fear for the result.

12. One of the best places to begin your business is on the borders of a suburban village near a good sized city.

13. Such a locality is less frequented by thieves, hawks, weasels, owls, skunks, foxes, and if the location is judiciously chosen, tramps.

14. Let the spot chosen slope gently toward the South, or South-East, as this will give the benefit of the sunlight and warmth in the cold season.

15. Choose a gravelly or sandy soil in

preference to any other: One that will not retain water, nor turn into mud very readily; but *is fertile and productive*.

16. If you are located already, you can make where you are answer very well; only the above items are the best guide, if you are at liberty to choose.

17. If possible secure a free range, where yours will not mingle with other chickens, nor molest your neighbors' gardens.

18. If you are a farmer and read this, you need not think it worthless because you have plenty of land and can choose where you will. Remember the sunlight and warmth, the gravel and the gardens.

19. For the farmer, too, comes this item: You cannot turn your grain more rapidly and successfully into cash than by raising, feeding and marketing poultry.

20. The market for all you can produce is sure. This should be remembered by every one who thinks about this as a business. Poultry and eggs are always in demand.

21. The best chickens of the best breeds command royal prices; and if you have them someone will find them. You cannot hide them, if you should try.

22. Properly conducted the business yields large profits.

23. But remember, it is very difficult to keep large numbers of chickens successfully. Innumerable trials have failed. Very few have succeeded.

24. Therefore commence small and grow. The failures have generally come from commencing very large without the necessary experience. Make haste slowly.

25. When you commence, do not depend upon your chickens for your living. Very few can in the beginning realize a success as bountiful as this would imply.

26. It is observable that many of the most successful poultrymen are otherwise employed and chickens are but "pastime" with them. Their outside "hobby."

27. As a "hobby" it is certainly a delightful one, combining work, and recreation, and great gratification.

28. Your personal experience must be your guide in all this business. Learn all you can by reading and by conversation; but after all you must only trust your own experience acquired from actual trial.

29. Always experiment on a very small scale. One or two are much better than a



hundred. You run less risk. It is safer.

30. Gradually your work will become a good support for you, if faithfully followed, and will absorb all your time.

### A Pitiful Fate!

HOW A MINISTER'S GOOD DEED LANDED HIM IN AN INSANE ASYLUM. THE STORY OF HIS ESCAPE.

*To the Editor of the Milwaukee Sentinel:*

Sir:—I have read a good many stories of late concerning the confinement of sane persons in lunatic asylums, and I am thereby prompted to relate a bit of personal experience.

In the year 1855, while I was serving the Methodist Episcopal church in a New England town, a neighbor's house took fire. In common with others I stood on the edge of the roof, passing buckets of water, exposed to the intense heat on one side and freezing winds on the other. I took a fearful cold. For twenty-five years it worked havoc in my physical and mental systems. Nevertheless, I continued in my ministerial duties. I preached many a sermon when suffering intense agony. At certain periods, however I would be comparatively well, and then again, my head would get heavy, my breathing labored, my appetite fickle. I would lose interest in life; feel sleepy at mid-day, and wakeful at midnight. My heart occasionally gave me great concern. Not knowing to the contrary, I attributed this ill feeling to malaria. But eventually mental strength faded away, and I was utterly prostrated. I was cauterized, cupped, blistered, and treated by many physicians in many different ways.

My case was a puzzle as much to my physicians as to myself. For one of them at first perscribed for delerium tremens, and yet I had never tasted intoxicating liquors. Another said I had brain disease, another spinal difficulty, another nervous prostration, heart disease, etc.

My mind eventually gave away, and in 1882 I was confined in the Brattleboro, Vt., Insane Asylum for six months. When I knew where I was I demanded instant release. I then made a visit to Oceanic, N. J., but I had reckoned too much on my strength. I again lost my reason for a considerable period.

That I was in a desperate condition is evident. My blood had become infected with virus, which inflamed my brain occasionally and doomed me to an early death; for no physician gave me any hope of a cure. I finally found out what my real disorder was, and undertook my own treatment. In a few months I was restored to such a state of health as I never expected to enjoy. That was over three years ago, and my physical and mental health have remained intact to this day.

Last March I came west, and engaged in garden farming. In all that time I have not lost a day's work; have apparently enjoyed the most vigorous health and I expect to live the full term of life. The remedy I used was warner's safe cure, and if I should live a thousand years, I should never tire of telling its praises.

You will confess with me, Mr. Editor, that such a change is remarkable. And you will, also, I am sure, agree with me, when I say that whatever created such a mental and physical restoration is deserving the highest praise.

Very truly yours.

REV. E. D. HOPKINS.

*Dodge's Corners, Wis.*

There are undoubtedly thousands who have an experience similar to the above, to whom Mr. Hopkin's recital will appeal with persuasive force.

WE have received, and here acknowledge, from Messrs. Lee & Bros, Christmas and New Year cards, tastfully conceived and neatly executed, as reminders that they still sell the "Champion Binders, Reapers and Mowers" at 39 Sharp St., Balto., Md. Long may such enterprises wave!

### Centrifugal Creamers.

The De Laval Cream Separator is becoming more popular every day. It is fast superseding all other methods of raising cream, yielding ten to twenty five per cent. better results and saving the use of ice and labor, and it also leaves the milk fresh and sweet. The size of the De Laval is the most practical, its construction the most simple, and its operation and work the most complete. It is adapted both to the dairy of twenty cows and upwards, and to the creamery of 100 to 1,000 cows. For the latter it is simply a question of one Separator for each 100 cows run once a day, or for each 200 cows run twice a day. Two or more De Laval's are better and cheaper in the end than any Separator made, of any size. Address for catalogue Jos. H. REALL, President, 32 Park Row, New York,

## Publications Received.

### COMMERCIAL RELATIONS.

These consular reports are very valuable and contain much that is instructive that can be obtained nowhere else; they are calculated to extend our commerce, expand our knowledge as to the value of our products, mechanical inventions, and various manufactures, therefore we hope Congress will continue their preparations and publications for the benefit of our whole people, among whom no class will be more benefited than the agricultural if people would only read and profit by the information given.

Bulletins numbers 5 and 6 of the Alabama Department of Agriculture for 1884. E. C. Betts, Esq., Commissioner.

Almanacs for 1885.—One of the most elegantly gotten up, for this year, is the 'MARYLAND ALMANAC' issued by the Maryland Life Insurance Company, Balto. It is profusely filled with capital wood cuts in the highest style of art, and many of which are unique and very expressive.

"VICK'S FLORAL GUIDE" for 1885 is as usual a "thing of beauty and a joy forever," creditable alike to that popular establishment and its universally acknowledged fine taste, which is instructive to every owner of a large or small flower-garden and lawn. To those who love adornment of grounds, who live in either town or country this pretty book should be a household treasure.

A Phrenological chart, being a coloured picture illustrating characteristically the various bumps or divisions of the brain, with the names and definitions of the same; or a phrenological map coloured and mounted to be hung up in schools and halls of learning. It is a volume of information in itself, price \$1 00, issued by Fowler and Wells, 753 Broadway, N. Y., as a special premium for subscribers to that long established paper "THE PHRENOLOGICAL JOURNAL" which for fifty years has been the accepted exponent of the principles of the Science of Phrenology, the utility of which, and general correctness is no longer doubted by intelligent people, many of whom avail themselves of the principles of the science in facilitating their business relations and avoiding or cementing friendships.

From the Department of Agriculture, a book of 350 pages entitled "Contagious Diseases of

Domesticated Animals". The investigations made by the Department during 1883 1884, have been extensive and of a character that throws much light upon the origin, extent and remedies of these diseases, and of course such a voluminous report from such authentic sources must be of great value to the farmer and to the stock-raiser. From the same, the admirable speech of the Hon. Geo B Loring, Com. of Agriculture, before the National Cattle Breeders Association at Chicago, Nov. 1884, a large portion of which, from another source we have given in the present issue of the Maryland Farmer.

Also from same, the Report of the Commissioner of Agriculture for the year 1884. This will be found to be a voluminous summary of the year's work of the Department and of great interest to the agriculturists of the country, and speaks for itself, more than long essays or arguments of the importance and efficaciousness and usefulness of such a department, and the necessity for the continued extension of the powers to help and foster the efforts and hampered energies of that class of our people who are by far the most numerous and useful, indeed, on whose energies and enterprises all the rest of occupations and employments of mankind depend for sustenance. Without agriculture the world would soon starve and mankind be blotted out, and yet, it is the last to be aided or even considered, and when it is thrust into notice, our legislators treat it rather contemptuously, like unto the pampered son who throws a bone to the over indulgent, aged, millionaire parent.

Report of J. T. Henderson, Commissioner of Agriculture for the State of Georgia, embracing the years 1883 and 1884. This is an unpretentious, but very able and instructive report, reflecting great credit upon the author and the State he so well represents.

"ORNAMENTAL GARDENING;" A treatise on beautifying homes, rural districts, and cemeteries, by Elias A. Long, published by O. Judd & Co., 751 Broadway, N. Y., price \$2 00.

This work was prepared with a view to supply a plain and practical work on ornamental gardening at a moderate price. The first of the several parts, into which the work is divided, is devoted to "Materials of Ornamental Gardening." These, of course, largely consist of trees, shrubs, and other plants, including the grasses, which are to give a finish to the work, by forming a carpet of verdure to set off all the rest,



Many farms only need to have their natural features turned to good account, to become highly ornamental, without interfering with their usefulness as farms. What is said on this subject is worthy of general attention. The teachings of no part of the work are more needed than those relating to cemeteries. While in the beauty of our burial places we are on the whole far in advance of other countries, there is still, even in the older portions of the Union, abundant room for improvement. The work is abundantly illustrated, and the instructions are so plain, that they may be readily followed.

Received from Oliver Ditson & Co., of Boston, one of the newest singing school books, called "THE MODEL SINGER," containing 192 pages, of which the first 25 have explanations and a graded set of exercises, the next hundred pages a most interesting collection of harmonized songs and glees for study, and the rest of the book contains a fair amount of hymn tunes and anthems. The moderate price is a recommendation, 60 cts.

### Journalistic.

"The Prince George's Enquirer," begun its third year on the 14th ult. under the present management, making twenty-three years since the commencement of the journal. The Enquirer continues the same fresh typography and tasteful appearance as characterized its former issues; in which particular it has no superior in the country. The contents evince much taste, judgement and ability in editorial and selected matter combined with industry in gathering facts of both local and general interest. We are pleased to hear of its well deserved success, and feel sure it must command public support. The present editors, Messrs. Joseph K. Roberts, Jr., and Frederick Sasser, Jr., are both prominent members of the Upper Marlboro Bar, and well-known citizens of this State.

"BABYHOOD," is a monthly devoted to the care of infants and the general interests of the nursery, \$1.50 per year, 18 Spruce St., N. Y. It is enough to say of this prettily printed monthly, that the popular and graceful writer, Marian Harland is the chief in its control and knows practically whereof she writes. It is commended to all who have young children under five (and even over,) years old. There is much in these monthly pages calculated to interest older people than children and take older folks back to early days when the toys and joys of our holidays were

not marked by such ingenious and elaborate toys as are now gotten up for the amusement and instruction of children of the present day.

The January Number of "HARPER'S MAGAZINE" is a worthy successor to the beautiful Christmas Number.

The frontispiece is from one of the six drawings by E. A. Abbey, illustrating the Second Part of "She Stoops to Conquer."

Among the many delightful and instructive contents are "A Pair of Shoes," the first of the promised series of papers on Great American Industries. It is a thorough exposition of the treatment of leather, of the shoe manufacture, and of the shoe trade, and is accompanied by graphic illustrations. Also several excellently well-told stories, is the beginning of a new novel, entitled "East Angels," by Constance Fenimore Woolson, the author of "Anne." The scene is laid in Florida. Another serial novel, entitled "At the Red Glove," also begins in this Number. The author's name is not given. It is a bright story, full of humor, located in Berne, Switzerland, and is illustrated by C. S. Reinhart.

Mr. George William Curtis presides with his usual grace and dignity in the Editor's easy chair, while the drawer is fully up to times past in its humor and wit, while this Number has indulged him in eight comic sketches, by C. G. Bush, relating "Orlando's Christmas Adventure." Harpers Magazine has grown to be an indispensable to every round table or library in every household.

"Choice Literature," is a monthly magazine published by J. R. Alden, 385 Pearl St., N. Y. Price \$1 00 year. It is excellent in its way, but its selections suit only a certain class of readers, and aims to please the elect of literati, leaving the multitude to still trample pearls under their feet as was said of a domestic animal in olden times.

"The Book Worm," a unique, handsome, and delightfully readable little monthly magazine, containing for the year over 300 pages and many fine pictures, all for 25 cents a year, is a recent characteristic of "The Literary Revolution." Each number contains attractive selections from some noted book,—the last presents Prescott's famous chapter on the "Spanish Inquisition." What will interest a vast number of book-buyers will be the regular monthly news of the "Revolution's" progress,—an enterprise that has wrought wonders in the book world. A specimen copy of "The Book Worm" will be sent free

to any address. John B. Alden, Publisher, 393 Pearl Street, New York.

"The New York Herald" comes to us with all the freshness of youth. Time only increases its influence at home and abroad. The new Bennet-Mackay Cable adds largely to its prestige and power for good. All the news of the world is gathered promptly into its pages, and it is always on the side of every enterprise promising good for our humanity. It is a welcome visitor in our editorial sanctum; for we find an abundance of general information and special news in its columns. Long may it prosper.

**Souvenir Medal.**—Thanks to Mr. A. T. Atwater, Secretary of the N. C. and H. G. Ass'n of U. S. for a copy of constitution &c. of the Association, and also for the beautiful Medal, given as a Souvenir by the citizens of St. Louis to the friends of such a large Association. It is wonderful, —and worthy of imitation—how these western cities recognize all great movements, evincing not only hospitality, but business shrewdness which far surpass their older and less enterprising sisters of the Atlantic border, we regret to say who seem to sleep in the lap of contented ease, neither caring for the *future* or concerned about the *present*, feeling that they have laid up enough treasure for their future sustenance and carelss whether their posterity prosper or not. The want of enterprise alone prevented our beautiful city of Baltimore from enjoying all the profit that assuredly will redound to New Orleans from its grand and greatest of all the "Worlds Fairs" of this century.



The Crescent Cultivator is made of fine steel, simple as a hoe. A lady can use one in her garden with less expenditure of strength than is required to sweep her carpet. Can be had by applying at the Office of the Maryland Farmer.

#### Recent Reported Outbreaks of Pleuro-Pneumonia.

Although we regret that Dr. Ward has reported an outbreak of this disease on a farm in Baltimore Co., near this city where at three cows have been lost—and another near Frederick City with a loss of two animals—we are pleased to hear from him on going to press, that no fresh cases have occurred, and from the stringent measures adopted, he hopes to stay its progress. He received intelligence of a fresh outbreak of disease supposed to be pleuro-pneumonia at Mrs. Townsends, Sunshine, Montgomery Co., which he investigated, and reports they were suffering from ordinary pneumonia, caused by cold and exposure, and not pleuro-pneumonia.

The Fourth Ensilage Congress will be held at the office of the New York Plow Co., 55 Beekman Street, N. Y., commencing Wednesday, January 21st, 1885, at 12 M., and continuing until the following subjects shall have been fully discussed:

Silos :—Location and construction.

Ensilage :

Effect :—On animals, milk, dairy products &c.

Samples of Ensilage and Butter will be on exhibition.

The Report on the Analysis of Milk will be submitted.

On Thursday, 22nd, at 10 A. M., the Congress will be addressed by Dr C. Harlan, of Wilmington, Del., on the subject of Green Manuring.

The First Dinner of the Ensilage Congress will be enjoyed Wednesday, January 21st, at 6 P. M. It is expected that this opportunity for social intercourse with practical and progressive farmers will be an interesting occasion.

The Maryland Farmer and a valuable premium for only one dollar.



## OUR LETTER BOX.

The following are a few of the many letters received by us daily, speaking kindly of the Farmer, and for which they will accept our sincere thanks.

KENT ISLAND. MD.

E. WHITMAN, ESQ.,

*Dear Sir:*—Enclosed please find check to pay my bill, as therein set forth. Suffice it to say, at present, that I am as well pleased as ever with the "Maryland Farmer," and always hail with delight its monthly return. It has already become, one of the essentials to my business; and my family digest its contents with as much avidity and comfort as I do myself. I have sold all the "Cotswolds" that I can spare for the season; and although seemingly "the winter of their discontent," yet there is a good demand for them. Their large carcasses, and far exceeding amount of wool render them more than equal to the juicy meated "Southdown," or the famous wool-producing "Merino." They will come again, when the "Breeders of them" pay that attention to that class of wool that can be put on them, as will suit the manufacturer of fabrics to be made into general-purpose garments. It can be done and at the same time, not materially lessen the weight of fleece. They will bring to day \$25.00 to \$50.00 each, and when special merits of size and fleece are attained, \$100.00 is not too extravagant a price.

The Cereals, being starvingly low, now is the time to pay special attention to stock-raising and mixed farming, into which it will pay to feed stock, and compel us "to acknowledge the corn," that is to say, when converted into stock-raising it is, still corn, but at a premium.

Yours, E. C. Legg.

CHASES WHARF. VA.

E. WHITMAN, ESQ.,

*Dear Sir:*—I enclose amount of bill received, to pay my subscription for "Maryland Farmer" to Jan., 1886. I take this opportunity to say that I know of no agricultural paper superior to yours, or more interesting, and I hope that it may continue to receive that liberal patronage which it so well deserves. Wishing you a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year, I am

Yours truly, W. T. C.

STILL POND, MD.

E. WHITMAN, ESQ.,

*Dear Sir:*—Inclosed please find amount to renew my subscription to the "Maryland Farmer" another year, and the continuance of our friendship.

M. T. J.

EASTON, MD.

E. WHITMAN, ESQ.,

*Dear Sir:*—Please find enclosed check, amount of bill received to Jan., 1886.

My Oxfords are doing splendidly. Sold last week to Mr. Plitt, No. 9 Lexington Market, five fat ewes, average 258 pounds. They are pure bred Oxfords, and I suppose the first ever butchered in Baltimore.

In spite of the desperate drouth, the most prolonged ever known in our section, my sheep held their condition. As an evidence that the Oxfords are successfully grown in this country, I have now in my flock six yearling ewes, which were late lambs last year, and in the fall were too small, I thought, to send out to customers. They are now fine specimens, and weigh but six pounds less than the average of my importations this year. The imported yearlings were selected from flock of John Treadwell, whose Oxfordshires are conceded to be the best in England. Mr. Treadwell's rams averaged at public sale \$35.00 more than those of any other breeder. Very truly yours,

F. C. GOLDSBOROUGH,

E. WHITMAN, ESQ.,

*Dear Sir:*—Inclosed find amount for "Maryland Farmer," one for myself, and one for a neighbor. I cannot get along without the "Farmer," and hope you may live long to furnish such a valuable help to the farmer. With my best wishes I still remain

Yours respectfully, W. D. SMITH, VA.

ROSE DALE, N. C.

E. WHITMAN, ESQ.,

*Dear Sir:*—Yours with bill received, and I herewith inclose the amount for the "Maryland Farmer," to Jan., 1886. I consider it a journal that brings much valuable information to the farming community. Yours respectfully,

J. R. ETHERIDGE.

NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J.

E. WHITMAN, ESQ.,

*Dear Sir:*—I saw a sample copy of the "Maryland Farmer" and liked it very much. I will subscribe for it one year. Find amount enclosed for its payment. Yours respectfully,

JOSEPH TENEYCK.

SUDLERSVILLE, MD.

E. WHITMAN, ESQ.,

*Dear Sir:*—Enclosed you will find my check to pay your bill received to-day. Wishing the "Maryland Farmer" success, and its editor a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, I am very respectfully and

Truly yours, W. H. N.

**Mississippi Valley Horticultural Society.**

The Sixth Annual Meeting of this Society will be held in the city of New Orleans, La., commencing January 14th, 1885, and continuing four days.

Judging from present indications, we are led to believe that this will be *the best* meeting of its kind ever held in this country. The World's Exposition has placed the entire control of the Department of Horticulture in the hands of the officers of the Mississippi Valley Horticultural Society.

**Sale of Jersey Cattle.**

There was an unusually large attendance at the sale of Mr. F. S. Cooper's Jersey cattle, Dec. 18. Bidders appeared from nearly every section of the country. Utissima, a two-year-old heifer by Pedro, out of an in bred Jersey Belle of Scituate cow, brought the highest price—\$1,220—to the bid of Messrs. Moulton Brothers, West Randolph, Vt., the closest opponent being Mr. S. A. Ellison of Richmond, Va., who laid the foundation of a good herd by the purchase of twelve head, including the imported cow Golden Heart, by King, at \$1,000, and the young cow Tillie Pogis, by Stoke Pogis of Linden, at \$770. Caution, by Pedro, a very promising two-year-old heifer, in calf by Bomba's Son, was purchased by Mr. Kauffman, at \$1,110. Cows and heifers in calf made an average of over \$404. One bull calf brought \$700. The yearlings and calves sold apparently to the least advantage. P. C. KELLOGG & Co.

**GANDY'S PATENT ENDLESS THRESHER BELTS.**—Any person who has had experience in running a threshing machine, is aware of the importance of having a good Endless Belt.

The delays occurring with a crooked laced belt, breaking, and running off the pulleys, would be more loss, than it would require to pay for a new belt, and we would advise every man, who runs machinery of any kind to procure one of the above described belts.

**Farmers' Convention.**

We call attention to the following notice of the next Annual Meeting of the Sandy Spring Farmer's Convention, at which the discussions heretofore have been very attractive.

In addition to reports from Committees on Rail Road Crossings, Hog thistle &c., and extract from the proceedings of the Clubs, there will be discussions on the following

**QUESTIONS:**

- 1st.—Has the use of Carolina Rock Phosphate produced satisfactory results?
- 2nd.—Should we reduce our acreage of wheat in view of present prices and the condition of foreign countries as to production and the laws governing exportation.
- 3rd.—Would a Creamery be a success?
- 4th.—Would it pay to cut fodder in a cutting box for feeding rather than to feed it whole?
- 5th.—Would it pay to top and blade our corn and make the fodder into ensilage?
- 6th.—Is the sulky plough a success?
- 7th.—Is it advisable to introduce foreign labor?

HENRY C. HALLOWELL, President.

**THE LIVE-STOCK DEPARTMENT OF THE NEW ORLEANS EXPOSITION.**

The Department of Agriculture, which comprises all the exhibits of machinery used for agricultural purposes and the live-stock exhibitions, is under the management of Hon. Geo. Y. Johnson, superintendent, Lawrence, Kan., ably assisted by Col. Edward Haren, of Kansas City, Mo. No efforts will be spared by these gentlemen to assist exhibitors and make them feel at home as soon as they reach the grounds.

For the Live-Stock the barns are six in number, handsomely built and painted, each is 400 feet long by 60 feet wide.